

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MUSEUM OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

R M Gilmore
1931

Alaska: - Species Accounts

Birds

pp. 328-569

Section 1

Mammals

pp. 570-644

Section 2



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
CLIR

Section 1
Birds

Alaska: Species Accounts

1931

R M Gilmore

Gilmore
1931

WESTERN GREBE

May 15 - Beaver Bay is alone member of this species, probably an immature, was seen about 4:00 P.M. at a distance of 75 yds. from the anchored boat. Beaver Bay is on the north side of Vancouver Is. B.C.

Gilmore
1931

HORNED
~~EARED~~ GREBE ①

Sept. 22 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

In Sumner's Bay today I picked up an old battered carcass of an ^{Horned} ~~Eared~~ Grebe. I brought the head home + upon measuring it found that it was deeper than wide at the base. However, I have not seen any live birds as yet.

Sept. 30 While cruising around in the bay in the recent rough weather, I have seen two grebes. One was close to shore + the other was feeding out about 100 yds. Both were very wary. Local people say that ~~the~~ the grebes are more in evidence during smooth weather.

Oct. 3 English Bay, W. Unalaska Is., Aleutians
Spec. No. 2214 was killed yesterday from the deck of the "Kanaga Native" just after we had anchored in the inner part of the bay. There were two others in the group of ~~three~~.

Oct. 25 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutian Is.
I have seen about 3-4 during my stay here. Generally they were close to shore and always alone. They were usually

Gilmore
1931

HORNED GREBE (2)

busily engaged in diving for the small
"needle fish" found among the rocks
along a ^{section of the} rocky beach. Dives took about
~~25~~ 30-45 seconds (estimate) and rest
periods on the surface a little less,
and sometimes only as much as five
seconds.

Gilmore
1931

Yellow Billed Loon ① Lavia adamsii

June 20, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska

One - positive - yellow bill - neck rings. seen from ship on south side of island.

July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska Several pair seen near

Camp Collin on June 28. Yellow bill not seen for certainty. On July

5th six or seven were seen in Iviktok Bay and Lagoon - They flew high, uttering their weird laughing cry, and the general direction was from the ocean inland or vice versa. I saw one in the water within a yard of shore in the lagoon but could not approach within gunshot range. Probably they nest on the lakes & lagoons. They are quite wary.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska.

Aug 2. At the reindeer camp, 10 miles east, a native brought me a large dark egg that had been found by the reindeer herders. The bird, as he said was, a large loon with a black head & light bill. - probably a Yellow Billed Loon. On my

Gilmore
1931

YELLOW BILLED LOON (2)

walk down to Cape Thompson & back I saw 7 or 8. There was one group of four that were feeding about 300 yds off shore.

Aug 23 - Saw some occasionally as I visited the shore - always out of range - sometimes singles & doubles. Said by Bob Tuckfield, native informant, to be common around Marett Inlet. Spec 1974 was brought to the boat by Charles Brower at Pt. Barrow. It had already been skinned.

Eschscholtz Bay Kotzebue S^d. Alaska
Aug. 27 Saw several of these large loons as we went into Elephant Point in motor launch. They were too far away to see the color of the bill, but were unmistakably the large type.

From notes of Commander E. D. Jones, Captain of cutter "Northland"

Oct. 15, 1931 - "big loon seen on way to Cape Prince of Wales."

Gilmore
1931

Red Throated Loon ①

June 8. St. Michael, Alaska
quite common in marshes back
of St. Michael - bunches from 2-6.

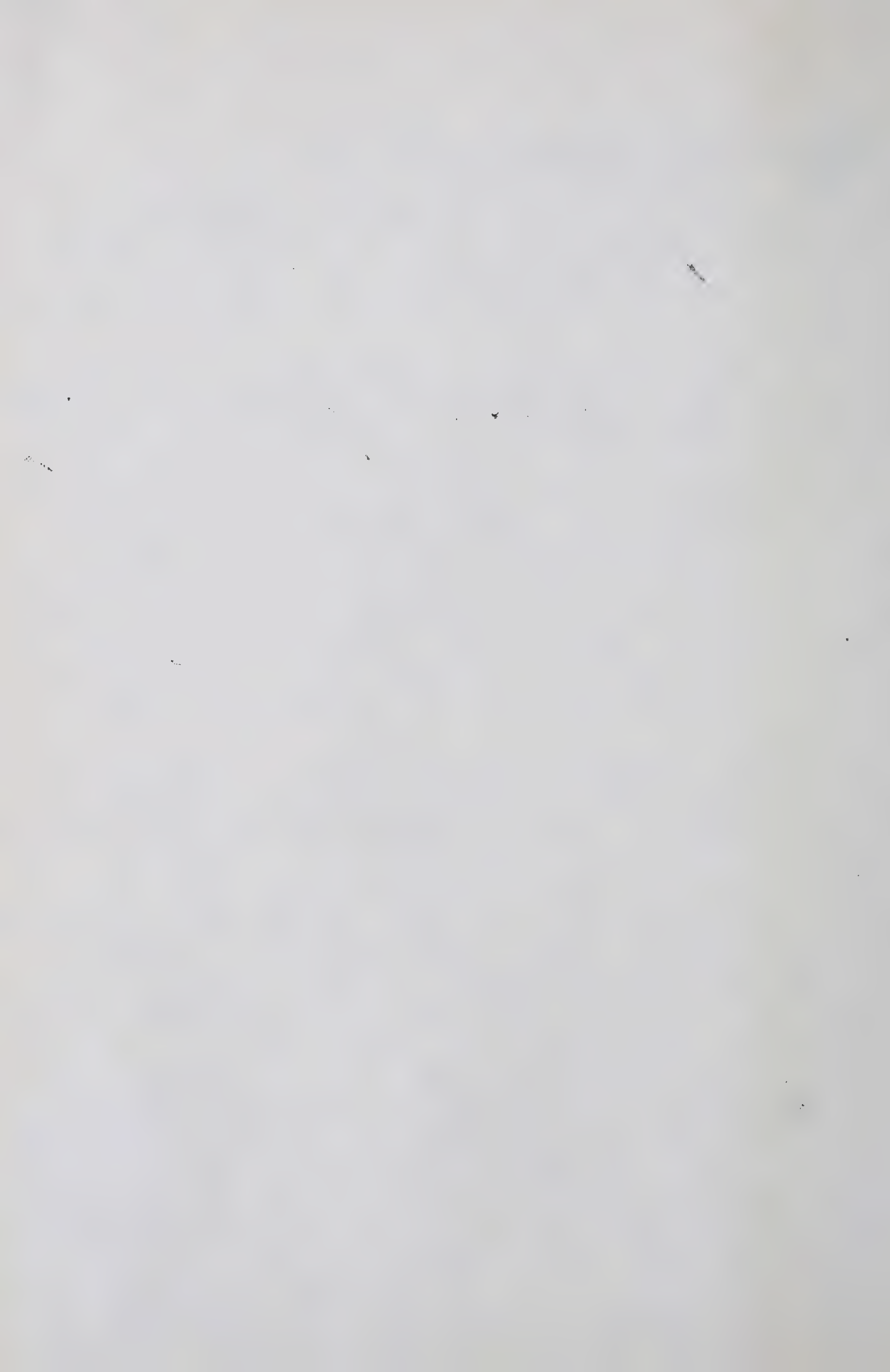
July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering
Sea, Alaska. Several pairs seen
near Camp Collier on June 28; small
head + red throat patch seen.

Several seen at odd times flying over
tundra near Sevoonga. Evidently they
were going to or from nest back in
marshy ground at base of hills.

Point Hope Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2. While staying at reindeer camp,
10 miles east, I saw half dozen or
so of these birds. They were generally
flying over the lagoons, uttering
a hoarse ^{long drawn} duck-like quack. General-
ly they were in pairs.

Aug 6. Watched four in small lagoon,
1 mile N.E. of Mission & near beach. They
were loafing in shallow water some
5-10 ft. from the shore. I managed
to belly stalk to within 20 ft. &
photographed them. They appeared a
little nervous when I was so close.



Silmon
1931

RED THROATED LOON ②

but made no effort to escape. When I stood up & walked toward them, they merely dove & swam towards the middle of the lake. They were very fearless - perhaps they were young birds.
Aug. 24 Have not seen many of these birds lately - perhaps they have gone south!?

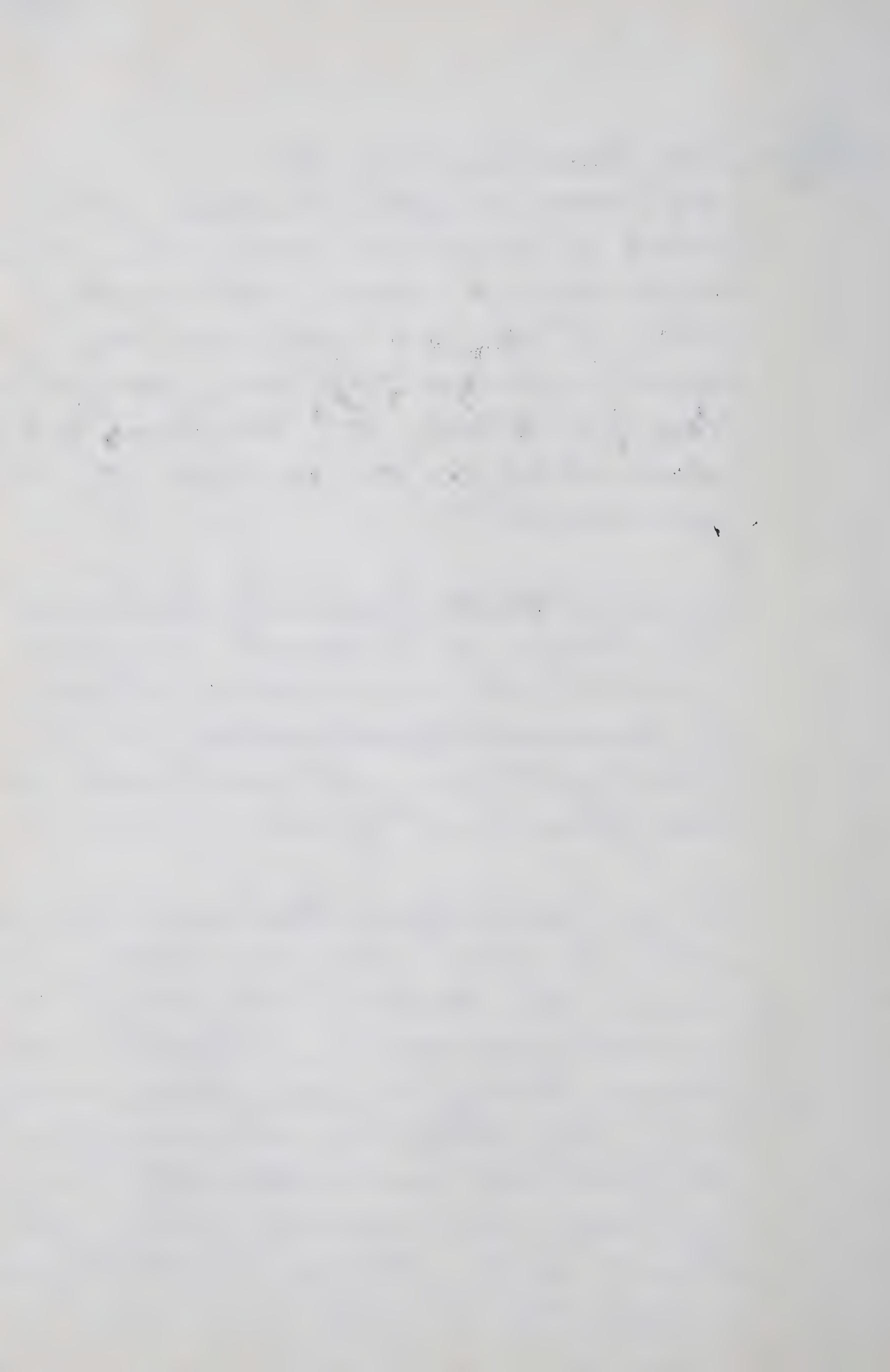
Sept. 21 Unalaska, Unalaska Is. Aleutian Is.

Mr. Patterson of Unalga Is, identified a bird he had once killed on Unalga Is, ~~from one of my bird books~~, as a Red Throated Loon. The identification was made from one of my bird books.

Oct. 2 English Bay, W. Unalaska Is, Aleutians

Spec. No. 2212 + 2213 were killed just inside the mouth of the harbor as we were cruising in. They had been feeding heavily on fish spawn about 2-3" long. ~~They~~ One was wounded at the first shot and attempted to escape by diving but was only under a few seconds before coming to the surface & attempting to fly.

"Pilot Fish"



Gilmore
1931

RED THROATED LOON (3)

Oct. 25 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Few seen here, and those were in the outer harbor and straits. Generally they were alone. In their white winter plumage they are known as "white headed loons." Probably feed to a great extent upon "pilot fish."

Gilmore Black Throated Loon
1931

June 8, St. Michael, Alaska

One taken + one other seen at
Whale Island

July 12. Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is. Bering
Sea, Alaska One seen near Camp
Collier on June 28; grey large head
very distinct.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2 Saw several about lagoons.
generally singles.

Aug 24 Seen off + on - not very
numerous.

Oct. 7 Akutan Pass, W. Aleutian Is.

I am fairly certain that I saw
two today while crossing the pass. The
dark head was the identifying mark
+ one appeared to have a white ring
around its neck. Both were alone;
the first was seen at the mouth of
Unalaska Bay headed west + the
other was seen in the middle of
the pass, headed south. Both
were flying about 150 yds. in the
air.

BLACK FOOTED ALBATROSS

Gilmore ~~Black Footed Albatross~~ Diomedea nigripes

1931

off Point Reyes
landward

May 5, 1931 - three of these birds picked up the ship after we had been out of the bay for several hours. They were immature birds & the white around the base of the bill showed plainly as they glided gracefully over the tops of the waves some 50 yds. astern.

By night fall there were three & one showed the white rump patch of a two + year old bird. They are known as "goonies" by the sailors.

May 6, 1931 Today as we cruised up along the Calif coast to about Crescent City, these birds were still following in the wake of the vessel & at times would vie with the gulls for the scraps thrown from the galley. The same three that were with us yesterday seemed to still be with us. That is, they seemed to be the same three.

May 7, 1931 - Still with us, following

D. nigripes ②

Gilmore
1931 about 50 yds. astern. At times
we had as many as 6.

May 8, 1931 this morning about 9:00
A.M. the "goonies" left us.
We were about 10-15 miles off
Tillamook Bay at the time. Perhaps
we were getting ⁱⁿ too close to land
for these pelagic wanderers. This
aft. at 5:30 there was a lone
"goonie" in Juan de Fuca Strait
just off Port Angeles. It was
first seen a half mile in front of
the boat & seemed to be heading
away from the sea. They are seldom
seen so far away from the open sea?
"Goonie" = Black Footed Albatross

May 20 - off Yakutat Bay ~ two birds
followed the ship all morning until
the pistol practice at 1:00 P.M. drove
them away.

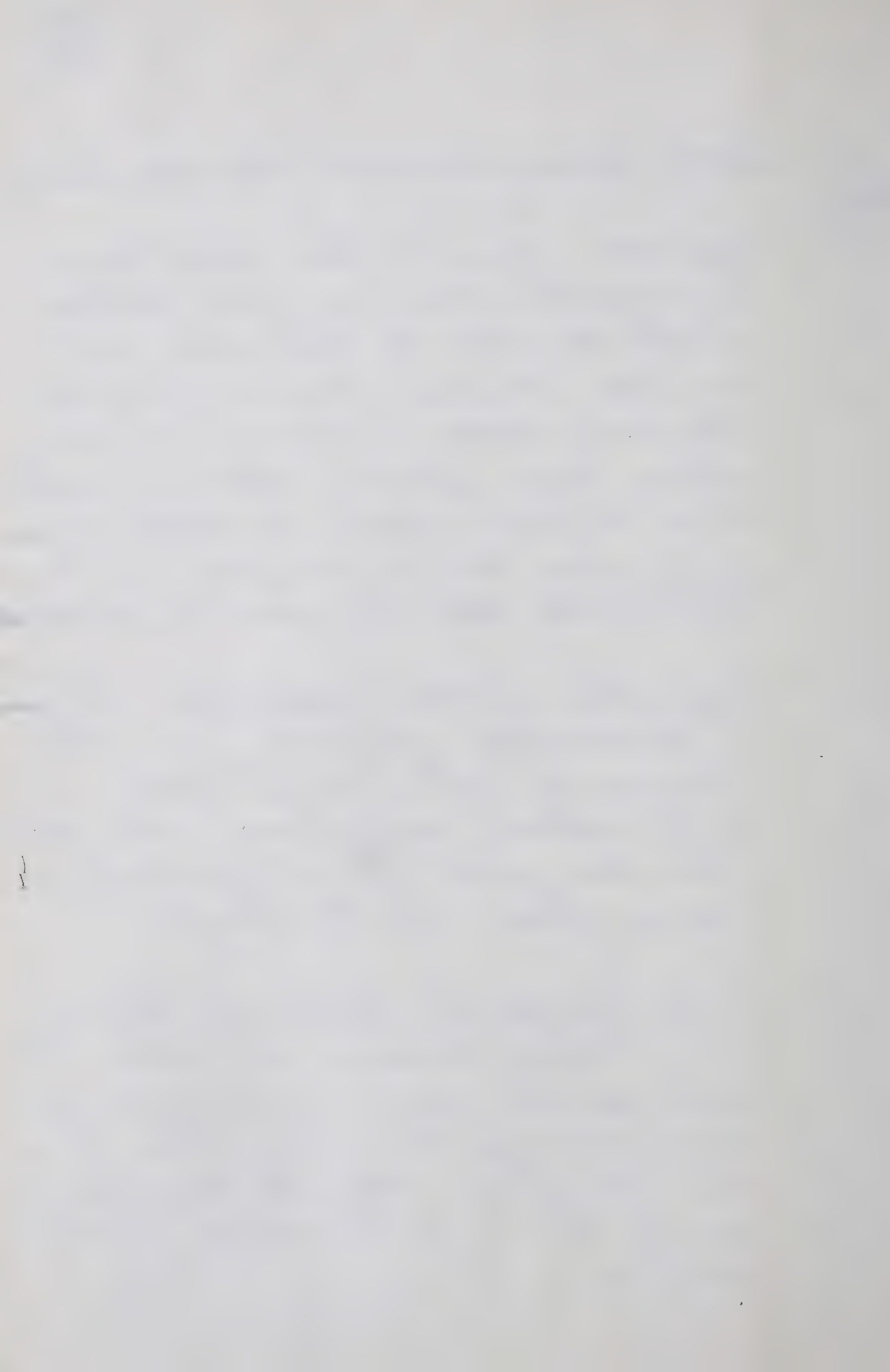
Oct. 2 Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska
According to local reports "goonies"
are rarely seen on the Bering side
of the Aleutian Is.

SHORT TAILED ALBATROSS Diomedea albatrusGilmore
1931

May 8, 1931 - From Mr. Wood - Chief Gunner on board I obtained my first ^{new} ~~mention~~ of this rare bird. Mr. Wood said that in 1929 (Summer) between Yakutat Bay and Seward (he thinks), he saw three large "goonies" that had white heads, breasts & bellies & slaty gray backs. From such a description it seems ^{exceedingly} ~~that~~ likely that they were D. albatrus.

May 9, 1931 Seattle, Washington There is a mounted specimen in the Museum of the Univ. of Wash. It is of ancient vintage, and the date has been lost, tho it probably came from the N. Pacific.

Oct. 2. Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska.
From ^{Capt.} Henry Swanson, I gather that "white goonies" were not very rare some 30-50 years ago but since then have not been seen. Only the old timers seem to have any knowledge of their existence.



Gilmore SHORT TAILED ALBATROSS (2)
1931

Sept. 1931 Nukuliak, St. Lawrence Is.
Bering Sea

Spec. no. 2298 - bill of what
is probably a Short Tailed Albatross -
was dug up from an old house pit
at the deserted village site on
Cape Nukuliak. Age indeterminate,
tho probably from 500 - 1000 years.

Gilmore PACIFIC FULMAR Fulmaris glacialis
 1931 May 22 Shelikof Strait - ~~last~~ this evening while it was very stormy several "light phase" Fulmars followed the boat. By this time it was so rough that most of the gulls had left + consequently shearwaters + Fulmars had the boat to themselves. They ~~of~~ seemed to enjoy the gale + spray, sailing + wheeling into and at right angles to the wind. One light phase Fulmar played (?) around the bow of the boat on the leeward side just forward of the flying spray.
May 23 Near Shumagin Is. Flock of Fulmars $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. from boat - 50+ dark to 3 light
June 19 St. Lawrence Is Bering Sea, Alaska
 one in light color phase seen near N.E. cape.
 On July 5 while going to Iviktook bay from Sevoonga we came upon the carcass of a dead whale that the natives had pulled up in shallow water, and saw either sitting on the water, feeding on the blubber or flying nearby, about 100 Fulmars. All were in the light phase and allowed a

Gilmore
1931

PACIFIC FULMAR (2)

Fulmaris glacialis
rather close approach. They rose rather heavily from the carcass + one that was wounded vomited whale oil when picked up. So far I have neither seen nor heard of a breeding colony.

July 27 Anchored off Point Hope, Alaska saw a light colored fulmar as seen of the boat. From a now forgotten source of information, I learned that both light + dark phase Fulmars have been seen this far north.

Aug 24 Learned from Capt. Jones of the Cutter that there were several dozen of the birds in light phase feeding on carcass of dead walrus on ice near Wainwright.

Aug 28 Cruising down thru the Bering Straits in foul weather I saw two dark ^{flying} Fulmars at some distance from the boat.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is. Bering Sea
As we approached this island

Galmore
1931

Gorge of Russia Cape

PACIFIC (Rodgers's) FULMAR (B)

From the North we began to see scattered fulmars in light phase when barely within sight of the island. As we drew near and finally anchored in the calm waters on the N.W. side they became more numerous & we could make out their gliding forms around the high light colored cliffs on the N.W. tip of the island & also around the dark bluffs several miles to the south. All seemed to be light colored birds. When we landed near the ~~very~~ high cliffs we could see hundreds of them flying about the ledges & holes in the face of the 2000 foot cliff. I came down upon them from above & on one side & they showed little fear of me as I climbed around the rocks & collected specimen after specimen. Out of the hundreds of light birds I saw, there was but one dark bird.

They were tough birds to kill, their thick covering of feathers stopping

Gilmore
1931

PACIFIC (RODGER'S) FULMAR (4)
the force of the shot with surprising
efficacy.

Stomach contents showed a variety
of foods. — 4 showed feathers, appar-
ently of young birds; 2 showed fish,
1 showed evidence of some kind of
green vegetation, & the rest were
empty. Stomachs were long, 4-5" &
ran from upper left to lower right
side of the body. Testicles were
attached to a much longer cord
than is usual in other birds &
consequently "flared" away from the
center about $\frac{1}{4}$ ". The tongues
were very smooth, and oil glands
at the base of the tail very large.
There was a decided "Fowl" odor
about the birds.

Sept. 2. Around Pribilof Is. Saw
quite a good many flying about
generally alone or in pairs. —
sometimes with flocks of Pender
Billed Shearwaters. All light
colored.

Gilmore
1931

PACIFIC (RODGER'S) FULMAR (5)

Oct. 2 ~~English Bay~~ Priest Rock, Unalaska
Bay - Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska

About 2 dozen (half dark & half white) were seen today just east of Priest Rock at the S.E. end of ~~the~~ Unalaska Bay. The water was only moderately rough and the birds were evidently feeding. ^{scattered}

Oct. 7 Akutan Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

While crossing the rough waters of the strait today I saw about a dozen Fulmars among the moderate (some thousands) flocks of Slender Billed Shearwaters. I only noticed two dark colored birds, tho there might have been more which I could not distinguish from Shearwaters at ~~any~~ ^{the} distance.

Oct. 26 Akutan Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

I saw about 2 dozen Fulmars today while in the middle of the pass. They seemed to keep well off shore and follow the general N.W. ~~move~~ movement of the scattered shearwaters. About one quarter of the fulmars were

Fulmar Pacific (RODGERS) Fulmar (6)
 1931
 in the dark phase. They were
 distinguishable (easily at close range)
 from the shearwaters by their larger
 heavier bodies, ~~and~~ broader wings, and
 slower movements. Tho some were
 resting on the surface when seen
 they did not appear to be feeding,
 and neither did the shearwaters.

head to the wing & the
 wrist as in shearwaters!
 less of a sharp

Oct. 31 - Saw a few scattered light phase
 birds ~~at~~ in Akutan and Unimak
 Passes. None of the dark colored
 tubinares came close enough to be
 distinguishable as ^{either} shearwaters and
 dark Fulmars. All appeared to be
 the former. Appeared to be just
 foraging over the ocean.

Nov. 1 Sunday. A few lone birds
 seen off western end of Alaskan
 Peninsula on south side. Just foraging.

Nov. 2 a few seen in Shelikof Straits.
 about a dozen in all - 1 dark to
 4 whites. They were just flying
 aimlessly about.

Nov. 5 Off Cape St. Elias Gulf of Alaska
 Today there were many Fulmars

Gilmore PRINCE FULMAR (7)
 1931 following the boat. They appeared
 to pick us up off Cape St. Elias
 and followed the ship all day
 toward Ocean Cape. Dark birds
 numbered about 20 and whites
 about 2-3. Many appeared to be
 part way between the extremes of
 color. Tho not as tame as ~~they~~
 the gulls they stayed very close
 to the ship considering their usual
 shyness.

Nov. 11. Between Ocean Cape & Icy
Strait. (Cross Sound) Most of the
 Fulmars dropped away from the
 ship but about a half dozen
 still followed. These Fulmars have
 obviously adopted the garbage gleaming
 habit and make a regular thing
 of following the ships. All the
 birds were dark colored.

Nov. 12 From Strait of Juan de Fuca
to Mouth of Columbia River. As
 we cruised southward today thru
 a heavy sea and about 50 miles
 off shore we were constantly

Gilmore PACIFIC FULMAR (8)
1931

shadowed by several dozen fulmars about 20 of which were dark. The flock stayed with the boat all day, vying with the gulls as to the final disposition of the ship's garbage. Again there seemed to be several individuals that bridged the gap between the extremes of light & dark color phases.

There is no doubt that these fulmars have the habit of following ships at sea for garbage. They generally follow closer to the ship than the albatross and farther away than the gulls. This habit seems to be confined to fulmars south of the Aleutian Is. North of the chain in the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean the fulmars either absolutely ignore the presence of the ship or veer away from it.

Nov. 15. San Francisco Bay. Since leaving the waters off the coast of Washington, fulmars have been rather scarce tho now and then

Fulmore
1931

PACIFIC FULMAR (9)

an occasional bird or two will pick up the ship and follow ~~see~~ it for some distance. Perhaps a dozen or more have ~~been~~ thus been encountered in the last two days. Last one seen was just off Point Reyes. Invariably the birds are dark plumaged.

E.D.

Notes from Commander Jones - Captain of the cutter "Northland".

1. Aug. 9, 1931 - 30 light colored birds were feeding on the carcass of a walrus; 15 miles S. of Wainwright.
 - ② Sept. 11-12, 1931 - between Cape Churchill, Alaska Is., and St. George Island - Fulmars were always in sight - light colored birds.
 3. Sept. 16, 1931 - "Fulmars in sight all day - halfway between West Cape (St. Lawrence Is.) and Humbell (St. Lawrence Is.) - light colored tho varied somewhat - spot on end of wing - no dark phase Fulmars."
- the rookeries between Boxer Bay and West Cape were cormorants and kittiwakes - according to Geist (

Gilmore PACIFIC FULMAR (10)

1931

O.W. Gust, of Alaska College & School of Mines) and the natives, there are no fulmar rookeries on the (St. Lawrence) Island. However there is a big rookery between Cape Chaplin (Indian Pt.) and Providence Bay (port of Siberia just west of St. Lawrence Is.).

5. Oct. 15, 1931 - one seen on water off King Island.

(6) He (the capt.) has never seen one east of Sledge Island. (presumably he means, in Norton Sound or close to the west coast of Alaska from Sledge Island south to the Alaska Peninsula).

Gilmore
1931

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Puffinus griseus*

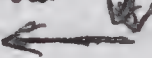
May 21 Marmot Bay - between Kodiak
& Afognak Is. 5-9 P.M. Today

we came upon these birds for the first time in their huge flocks. One of these great flocks was some 2-3 miles off shore, water very rough, 60 miles per hr. ~~for~~ head gale, and they were assembled in a dense body on the water. Ever & anon they took flight & flew about in a dark wavy mass for a few seconds until settling on the surface again. A large black fish spouted several times in the group. Perhaps they were feeding on some surface crustacean that had also attracted the whale! Seemed to be at least 1000 in the single group.

As one turned away & looked to the west toward Kodiak his gaze thru 180° degrees was filled with a mixture of tumbling wave flattened white caps & innumerable scattered shearwaters skimming over the surface or wheeling & banking some 10 yds above the ^{water}. At least 2-3000 were in the whole bay. Flocks got smaller

Sooty Shearwater (2)Gilmore
1931

as we approached Whale Passage +
Kupreanof Strait. + night came on
May 22 Adakof Strait - Shearwaters
began to follow the boat about noon
today - by 3:00 there ^{were} was about
18 - being mostly behind the boat
while gulls hovered over the windward
side. - There is a moderate gale
blowing ^{full on} off the starboard beam
+ these shearwater always face
the wind in flying + so have to
swoop up + back + to the left
to catch up with the boat when
they fall behind.

boat  wind



-- part of shear water following ship in
a heavy wind full on starboard beam.
Numbered figures are positions of pausing.
Still following at 8:30 P.M.

Nov. 1. Off south end of Alaska Peninsula.
About 100 birds seen all day. They
were scattered in distribution and
were flying at random over the

Gilmore
1931

SOOTY SHEARWATER (3)

moderately rough water. They are indistinguishable from the Slender Billed Shearwater in flight. I have arbitrarily designated the Shearwaters north of the Aleutian Islands as Slender Billed and those south, as Sooty. This was done merely because I happened to start that way.

Nov. 5 Off Cape St. Elias, Gulf of Alaska
About a half dozen of these birds were seen at various times today as they flew in the vicinity of the ship. Whether they were following in our wake ~~or just~~ for refuse, or not, was not easily ascertained for the birds were well scattered and one could not tell whether the closest were the same or different birds, as they flew back + forth over the rough waters.

Nov. 15. San Francisco Bay. Perhaps a half dozen birds all told, have been seen since leaving Seattle. They were very shy.

Silmore
1931

SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER ①

Aug 31 Off N.E. Cape, St. Lawrence Is.

Saw a few scattered birds this evening - sea rough. Birds were flying low over the water and none seemed to be sitting on the surface.

Sept. Off east side of St. Paul Is.
($57^{\circ}17'N$ - $169^{\circ}53'W$ and $57^{\circ}04'30''$ - $169^{\circ}43'$)

About noon today we ran into large numbers of these birds. Many thousands were flying and ~~many~~^{an} equal number were resting on the surface in large "rafts" of 100-500 individuals. I saw one small bunch of whales playing around. There were about 5-6 in the group but it seemed a small ~~amount~~ number to afford an attraction to these "whale birds" which are supposed to feed on ~~the whale~~^{their} excrement. However, I don't think they do, but rather are found where the whales are, due to a fondness for the ~~small~~^{small} fish & shrimps, ~~upon~~^{the} schools of which the whales feed. ^{up}The stomachs of the 15 birds obtained

Gilmore
1931

SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (2)

were generally very empty and those ~~that~~ ~~who~~ had found anything to feed on, seem to have caught small fish or shrimp, but the remains were so well altered by gastric juices that identification was mere guess work at best.

Generally the flocks on the surface took wing several hundred yards ahead of the boat but some were almost run down. Out of one of these flocks 13 specimens were obtained and the boat was right in the bunch before they frantically tried to escape. The noise from paddling feet and beating wings made a low roaring noise and officers on the ship state that large flocks of a thousand or so birds when ~~thus~~ run down in a similar manner make a noise like the roaring of the surf. One such story states that the captain of a cutter, running upon such a flock in a dense fog rang "Full speed astern" to the engine room, thinking he was on the surf.

Gilmore 1931 SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (3)

All of the specimens Nos. 2058-71 were very fat, the adipose tissue lying in heavy layers over the body and blanketing some of the internal organs. None vomited when picked up alive; evidently they had nothing in their stomachs to regurgitate. The tongues and ~~roof~~ palate were covered with sharp projections pointing toward the throat, perhaps an adaptation to grasp wiggling living prey. - quite a contrast to the smooth tongued and palated Fulmars. However, like the Fulmars, the testes of the Shearwaters were attached quite laterally, a quarter to $\frac{3}{8}$ inch from the median line. The flesh has a dark rich color and an odor much like auklet & Eiders. - heavy & pungent tho not fishy.

Sept. 3 From Unalaska Bay, 40-50 miles N.E. For ^{the} four hours before reaching Unalaska, we passed thru countless thousands (millions?) of these birds, ^{nearly} all on the wing and flying in a general Eastward direction. Looking thru powerful glasses in

Gilmore
1931

SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATERS (4)

all directions, one could see no end to the ^{low} flying mass of birds. It was simply incredible; the numbers of birds must have been enormous for there was one every 50-700 ft. Given 1 bird for every area 50' x 50' and the total estimated area of flight as 40 miles x 40 miles (purely a speculation as to how far they ~~are~~ extended on each side ^{of our course}), and applying a little mathematics, one gets something like this: 1 bird every 2500 sq. ft. in an area of 1600 sq. miles (or 41,600,000 sq. ft.) or a total of 17,842,176 birds. That's low! - looked to me as if there ~~was~~ were empty-millions more. Not being an astronomer, I doubt if I can figure any higher, anyhow.

Again anyhow, the birds were found in the very mouth of the bay but undoubtedly kept well off shore.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

Here is a peculiar phenomena, related by Henry Swanson, capt. of the "Kamaga Native". He states that every time he

Gilmore 1931 SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (5)

has cruised in from the west in a heavy fog, and along the north side of this island but out of sight of land, and has suddenly encountered the dense flocks of "Whale Birds" on the water. He has swung south and invariably ran right up to Cape Mankushin. ~~On the~~ ^{that it was} first and second times, he thought ~~was~~ a peculiar coincidence but after the regularity of its ~~absolute~~ ^{occurrence} ~~certainty~~ was proved, he accepts it as a help to his navigation. He has guided his ship infallibly by the birds for about two dozen times so far.

Sept 22 Unalaska. Spec. no. 2185 was picked up on the sandy beach at the west end of Summer's Bay. It was quite emaciated and undoubtedly was carried in on the recent storm.

Oct. 2 - Unalaska. As the Nauyaga Native took me to English Bay today we it ran thru a moderately large (few thousand) flock of whale birds. They were ~~both~~ either flying or resting on the surface, and seemed to be ~~the~~ confined to the seaward

Gilmore
1931

SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATERS (6)
areas off Priest's Rock & adjacent
jutting headlands.

Oct. 7 Akutan Pass, W. Aleutian Is.

While crossing the rough waters of the east side of the pass we ran thru several thousand of these birds. The flock extended in a long line of a general north and south direction and far to the north on the horizon we could see myriads of these swift flyers, ~~moving~~^{moving} like motes in a sunbeam. The water was rough from rip tide and N.W. wind and none of the birds were resting on the surface but were ceaselessly skimming the surface of the water whether in deep trough or on wave crest.

One can watch these birds, ^{by the hour} for each individual acts by himself and ^{the} effect is a mass of wheeling, darting, gliding birds. Their actions are cyclic; they fly on rapid ~~primaries~~ to a height of about 20 ft & then glide swiftly down over the waves, following each trough & crest with morrow precision.

Gilmore
1931

SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (7)

Often they ~~fly~~ do not rise above the surface to gain momentum for their ^{next} glide, but ~~flap~~ fly swiftly along on their original course over the waves.

At times certain sections of the flock seem to be moving in the same direction, never are all the birds moving in unison.

The effect of such disconcerted, uncooperative ^{a bewildering} action among thousands of birds, is a hodgepodge of darting twisting black forms mixing together without rhyme or reason and the whole unaccompanied by any sound.

Paul Torngerson, of Unalaska, states that on ^a December day several years back at Pavlov Bay on the south side of the Alaska Peninsula, he counted 250 dead "Whale birds" on the beach in a 2 hour walk. A S.W. gale had evidently occurred a few days before & had evidently killed them.

Oct. 25 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is. E. Aleutian Is.

Capt. Fred Pederson, here at the Pac.

Gilmore 1931 SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (8)

American Whaling Station states that in the summer of 1919, Akutan Bay was filled with whale food (shrimp) for about 18 days, and as a consequence many whales and thousands of shearwaters were present all over the bay. It seems ^{an indubitable fact} ~~unquestionable~~ that the shearwaters fed on the shrimp, as do the whales, and the belief that whale excrement forms a main part of their diet is purely a myth. This case also shows that the birds will enter the land locked Bays if necessary for food. Pederson is a fairly reliable informant, and as there is nothing "tail" about this story, there seems no reason to discredit it.

Oct. 26. Akutan Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

The shearwaters in the pass today were not numerous - 500-700 in all being seen. These birds were scattered out over many miles and were, in general, flying in a N.W. direction. Very few were resting on the surface of the water and there were evidently not feeding, for had food been

Almore SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (9)
 1931 present there would have been flocks
 on the surface diving & poking about
 for the ~~prey~~ morsels.

The trend of the whole group of
 birds was in a N.W. direction and
 the wind was a mild "Sou'wester".
 Considered in the light of migrational
 possibilities, can it be that many
 of the birds swing across the big
 bend in the Aleutian Chain to
 the Asiatic shore and hence south
 to the breeding grounds in New Zealand
 waters? Certainly the
 quantity of ~~the~~ individuals is much
 less than 6 weeks ago, many having
 undoubtedly "moved out".

Oct. 31. Akutan and Unimak Passes.

Several hundred scattered birds seen
 in the passes as well ^{as} in ~~the~~
 the north end of Akutan Strait. There
 was no directional trend to their flight.

From the notes of Commander E. W. Jones,
 captain of the Cutter "Northland".

- ① Nov. 7, 1930 - large flock seen off Volgai Is.
- ② Aug 7 or 8, 1931 - one sat on water near

Gilmore SLENDER BILLED SHEARWATER (10)
1931

- ship - between Luteville & Icy Cape.
- (3) Aug. 1931 - young one seen (according to C. H. Brower of Pt. Barrow) - Icy Cape
- (4) A man who had lived for 12 years on St. George Island had never remembered seeing one - however one flew into the chartroom of the ship one night while near the island in 1930 - Latitude 57°.
5. Sept. 16, 1931 - 100[±] seen off West Cape St. Lawrence Is.
6. Sept. 17, 1931 - 1000[±] seen off Boxer Bay, St. Lawrence Is.
7. Sept. 22, 1931 - few seen 29 miles S.E. of Nome.
8. Sept. 29, 1931 - few seen 12 miles N.W. of Sledge Island.
- (9) Oct. 15, 1931 - 30 in sight at Cape York & birds continued to be present until the boat reached Cape Prince of Wales.

Elmore
1931

FORK TAILED PETREL Oceanodroma furcata

May 20 off C. St. Elias & Westward.

Saw a pair of these birds today -
were on water & flew as we approached
to about 50 yds.

Sept. 25 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

Water very rough.

Today I saw but one of these birds
and secured it. It was resting
on the water in the strait between
Hog Island & Natietun Bay and
allowed us to approach it closely
in the power boat. Locals report
them scarce.

Sept. 28 I saw two this morning ^{100 yds} off
the south end of Amaknak Is., in the
inner harbor, and secured both. They
were not together and seemed to be
feeding. No. 2208 had evidently eaten
a quantity of oil, for the stomach was
full of an evil smelling oily mess.
None of the three taken so far, have
been fat.

Oct. 2 Off just off Prist Rock in the
S.E. end of Unalaska Bay I saw
about a half dozen of these birds.
Their actions are quicker ^{but similar to} than their
larger cousins, but the "white birds"

Gilmore
1931

FORK TAILED PETREL (2)

Oct. 7 Akutan Pass, W. Aleutian Is.

While crossing the rough waters of the ~~strait~~ pass I saw about a half dozen flocks of from 2-10 birds. Some were resting on the surface and others were flying close to the surface of the water with rapid wing beats. They lack the glide of the whale birds.

No one takes much notice of these birds here.

Nov. 2. Shilikof Straits, Gulf of Alaska.

About a dozen birds were seen today while cruising up the south west end of the straits. They were generally alone and flying rapidly close over the surface of the moderately rough waters.

Selmore
1931

WHITE CRESTED CORMORANT

Phalacrocorax auritus cinerascens

Discovery Passage
British Columbia

May 15, Seymour Narrows - A dozen
or so of these birds were seen today
either alone or in pairs. Probably
many have been seen in the
past days. Perhaps these "shags"
were Brandt Cormorant.

May 16, Queen Charlotte St. - Inlayson Channel.
Few seen today.

Gilmore
1931

Discovery Passage,
British Columbia

Pelagic Cormorant ① Phalacrocorax

pelagicus pelagicus

May 15, Seymour Narrows Several of these birds were seen today - their white flank patches were very obvious. Several immatures noted with one adult.

May 19 - Northern part of Island Passage. Seen all along route - most ~~numerous~~ numerous in Joy Strait. White flank patches ~~conspicuous~~ conspicuous.

May 31 Dutch Harbor Amaknak Is. Unalaska Bay, Unalaska Is., Alaska. Quite common around the low rocks at the edge of shore. More without the white flank patch than with. Saw a pair on Summers Lake, which is partially fresh.

July Sivoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Quite common here - generally seen flying a couple of hundred yards offshore or near their nests in the sea cliffs. Along these sea cliffs a dozen



Gulmore Pelagic Cormorant (2)

1931

or so may be seen sitting out on a rock at the edge or perched here and there along the cliffs. They are quite wary & fly well before one gets within range & well overhead. During the month of August the natives hunt the fledglings just before they are able to fly and shoot great numbers. They often climb the face of the cliff to dislodge them - a very dangerous pastime as most of the cliffs are formed from crumbly rocks. They are cooked whole (viscera removed) with only the larger feathers removed & devoured with head, feet, & natal down included. They are generally hung outside for some length of time until they are good & ripe. The heavy layers of fat make them quite a delicacy (Preceding gastronomic discussion taken from O.W. Geist.) & also the following hunting notes) The natives do not kill the adults until they have taken toll of the fledglings. Then they shoot an

Gilmore
1931

Pelagic Cormorant (3) ^{with aid of mud + sticks} aduet + prop it up, on a rock near the water to serve as a decoy. Every one shot thereafter is like wise set up as a decoy. The natives shoot from blinds set back from the waters edge on some low promontory. There are dozens along the shore for a mile, or so each way. These blinds ^{each} belong to a family & the occupants take their turns shooting, one shot apiece in sequence, hit or miss. The Blinds are made of logs & rocks, are about 3' high, & shaped like the three sides of a box, each side 6-8' long, & end 4-5' long.

Tigara, Pt. Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean
Aug. 9. Doubtful sight record - a single bird flying 60-75 yds high over the sand spit about 2 miles from the point.

Saw no Cormorants in the way south thru Kotzebue Sound etc.

Sept. 1. St. Matthew Is Saw several "white flanked" Cormorants flying ^{a little} offshore.

Gilmore
1931

PELAGIC CORMORANT (4.)

Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians.

Sept. 18 Today I saw several cormorants in the Bay just across from Dutch Harbor. They all (4 or 5) appeared to be immatures and are the first I have seen since coming here on the 3rd.

Sept. 22 Unalaska - seem to be getting more common - at least I am noticing more.

Sept. 25. Unalaska. I saw a dozen or so of these birds while cruising around in the N.W. part of the bay in Olsen's 24' fishing boat. There seemed to be two kinds when I had them in the hand, but I could not separate them in life. They are ^{very} curious ~~birds~~, often flying about & over the boat in broad circles to investigate the intrusion.

Oct. 1, Unalaska I saw a half dozen or so sitting on the rocks in the reefs between here & Summer's Bay. They are very wary and do not generally look twice before flapping heavily away.

Oct. 4. Between Unalaska & English Bay - a dozen or so were seen on the trip.

Salmon
1931

PELAGIC CORMORANT (5)

From Unalaska to English Bay. Strangely enough, I have not seen any birds here this fall with the characteristic white flanks.

Oct. 3. English Bay, W. Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

About 20-30 of these birds (Spec. No. 2217 is one) on some low rocks about 50 yds from shore on the middle north shore of the bay. They were quite wary and flopped heavily off the rocks when I was several hundred yards off, but with their usual curiosity they circled about for quite a while.

Oct. 7. Akutan Pass, W. Aleutian Is. A

few were in evidence in the pass and in Unalaska Bay. Lone birds and pairs may be encountered almost anywhere in these waters and I ^{have} noted them occasionally wherever I have been: English Bay, Unalga Pass, Beaver Inlet, etc.

Oct. 25 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutian Is.

Common in the outer part of the bay and around the rocky Akun

Almore
1931

PELAGIC CORMORANT (6)

Straits where they feed extensively close to the rugged beaches and probably find "pilot fish" a large part of their diet. When flushed from their roosts on rocks or cliffs, or from their feeding, they seem greatly perturbed and fly aimlessly about in large circles, passing close to the boat at regular intervals. They seem loath to leave "their ^{small} area," ~~and~~ One specimen was easily decoyed back within range by the frantic waving of a cloth cap. I have never heard them utter a sound. None of the birds show any white patches on the flanks.

When feeding together they go about their business with perfect amity and accord. They do not seem to quarrel, at least ^{not} at this time of the year. They do not, as a general rule, seem to be very gregarious and tho they do gather in numbers from 10-25 around their favorite roosting there appears to be no herd instinct or psychology to speak of. Such a flock may hang together in an awkward

Gilmore 1931 PELAGIC CORMORANT (7)
 slow lumbering sort of fashion but
 more often they scatter out and away
 like so many independent individual
 minds.

Oct. 26. N. Akutan Is. E. Aleutians.

While crossing the rough lumpy
 stretch of water between North Head
 and Lava Point on Akutan Is. as
 I was enroute to Unalaska on the
 "Picaroon" I noted hundreds of
 cormorants along the rocky rugged
 shore. Such numbers were not present
 when I came east on Oct. 7, and
 Hall mentioned that he did not
 notice them on the 15th. Thus
 it seems likely that they have
 recently gathered for some migrational
 purpose or perhaps by coincidence.

Literally there were hundreds!
 They wheeled about in flight in a
 haphazard disconcerting fashion. There
 appeared to be no purpose to such
 bewildering antics tho perhaps the
 sudden presence of the boat was
 responsible for ~~the unusual circular~~
~~flying~~. Many of them taking wing in

Gilmore
1931

PELAGIC CORMORANT. (8)

their aimless circular course.

Neither did it seem to be food that caused the "chantauqua". Such a concentration of food would invariably mean shrimps, and then "whales" and "~~shearwaters~~" would be present. And they were not present.

The cormorants seemed to stay in the general locality after we had passed.

Gilmore
1931

BLACK BRANT ①

Angara, Pt. Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean

Aug 22. Walked down to Jabber-
town + along the lagoons towards
the Maryatt Inlet today + for the
first time saw lots of Brant. The
Natives said the main flight was
from 6-8 in the morning. They flew
about the lagoons and over the
sand spit at this point. I have
not seen any out about the
village. When returning away from
danger, they utter a hoarse nasal
note.

Oct. 28 In a recent letter from O. W. Guist,
he reports their presence on St. Lawrence
Is in Aug. + early Sept.

Flocks numbered 12-25 and
stayed very well together.

Gilmore
1931

CACKLING GOOSE (1)

Oct. 3 W. Aleutian Is. According to Capt. Henry Swanson, these geese were once much more common than they are now, but their numbers have been much depleted by the foxes planted on the islands. Now the Cackling Goose is quite rare - seen only occasionally - and I have not seen any to date. He states that they are quite evenly distributed thru out the islands tho out west (Atka, etc.) he has seen larger flocks.

Oct. 29 Lieut. Commander H. Bradbury of the "Northland" reports having visited Baldi Is. in the W. Aleutians in some of his former cruises, and there the Cackling Geese nested by the thousands. The nests were located on the ~~grass~~ ^{grassy} ground on top of the island.

Gilmore Snow Goose
1931

June 15, Nome, Alaska

Flock of 7 seen flying 200 yds over town -
black wingtips conspicuous.

Sept. 1, St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea. -

Picked up a wing on the south slope of
Cape Glory of Russia. It appeared to be
the remnants of a foxes meal. Perhaps
it is the wing of a Pacific Eider.

Oct. 28. G. W. Seist, in a recent letter
from Serovonga, St. Lawrence Is., reports
that Snow Geese are just beginning
to arrive. (That was in early Sept.)



Gilmore
1931

EMPEROR GOOSE ①

July 3, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska So far a half
dozen flocks have been seen along
the shore between here and
Gambell and invariably they were
flying westward. Flocks numbered
6-40 ±. They are said to nest
in great abundance around the
lake & salt lagoon at the narrow-
est part of the island west &
south of here. Saw a
good many on trip to Iviktok
& back - most (100 or so) seen at
Iviktok lagoon & inland. Nests
were found on a low sandy island
in the lagoon. They were set in a
depression in the sandy soil &
contained 5 & 6 white eggs respect-
ively. The clutch with 6 was ready
to hatch, one being opened & the
occupant already peeping. 16 hours
later three were broken & the
chicks out. The other nest had
once been an Eiders' (Pacific) for
two eider eggs (dark) were lying
beside the 5 goose eggs. Such
nests are evidently appropriated

Gilman
1931

EMPEROR GOOSE (2)

at will. The ♀ took flight at about 30 yds. Flocks inhabited the banks of the river up which we traveled. Evidently they roost there for large quantities of dung were in evidence. They certainly feed on the grass along the banks for the crops of the geese killed were filled with fresh green blades. The grass is clipped close to the ground for several yards back from the water. They are quite wary, being quite hard to stalk (of course they feed at vantage points where they can easily see for long distances) and usually sweep away in their flight when ~~see~~ they see anything suspicious.) The ♀ no. 1742 skeleton had plucked much of the down from her belly, presumably to line her nest depression. Their note is the usual short nasal cry, which they utter in flight or upon being flushed. According to Geist the island center of abundance is the big salt lagoon on the south side of the island. Here on a quarter mile

Gilmore
1931

EMPEROR GOOSE (3)

neck of land separating the main body of the lagoon from the ocean thousands of these geese may be seen circling about or feeding on the succulent grass.

Sept. 19. Unalaska, Unalaska Is. Aleutians
A flock of 12 Emperor, "Beach" Geese were reported today over by Captain's Harbor. These birds winter in these islands about here in great numbers and this seems to be the first record this fall of ~~any~~.

Oct. 2. English Bay, E. Unalaska Is.

I saw two flocks of about a dozen each here today. One flock was sitting on the rocks of the south side of the mouth of the bay and the other flock flew ^{overhead} toward the marshes at the head of the bay.

My Aleut companion remarked that they were searching for fresh water.

In flight they seem to have two notes. One is a low short nasal grunt, evidently just a sociable chatter, and the other is a high falsetto ~~note~~ cry uttered in a striking monotone.

Gilmore
1931

EMPEROR GOOSE (4)

Oct. 15 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is. E. Aleutians

As I came down off the hill today in a heavy S. E. rain storm I saw about a dozen geese fly up the bay to the head. Their flight down wind was veering and wavering. There was no mistaking the identity of the light gray bodies. The next morning,

I went down to the ponds and creeks where I supposed I might find them; but they were not there. Evidently they had stopped only long enough to get enough fresh water and then went out again.

Oct. 24 Akun Strait, E. Aleutian Is.

While hunting in the rocky, reef lined narrow strait today we saw two flocks of Emperor Geese, one of five and the other of three individuals. Both flocks were sitting on the wet rocks adjacent to the water and tho the flock of five took wing upon our approach, we successfully rowed up to the flock of three and secured all. Hugh and Paul MacLashan were my companions in the

Gilmore EMPEROR GEESE ⑤

1931

boat and are reliable informants, having resided at Akutan for many years.

They stated that, tho it was well nigh impossible to effect a successful stalk on roosting birds either by foot or in ~~at~~ a small boat under engine power, they were quite easily approached in plain sight by a row boat, or any small boat powered by oars. Evidently the geese are quick to catch the slightest movement, odor or noise from the land, and are frightened by the sound of a motor but they will look upon a boat being rowed quietly and easily directly up to them with a sort of stupid curiosity. Certainly, we had no difficulty in rowing up to the flock of three and getting to within 25 yds before firing. Even our strenuous and necessary efforts to keep the boat from banging on the ice adjacent rocks from the force of the waves did not disturb them.

On the wet rocks and boulders of some promontory, the birds seem

Gilmore
1931

EMPEROR GOOSE (6)

to eat and sleep and loaf to their hearts' content. At times they wend their way to fresh water to drink. Their food consists of the mussels which are found clinging to the rocks in great numbers. Whether they eat the mussels whole, or somehow manage to break them open, is a mystery to me, but the stomach, gizzard and large intestines contain the tiny fragments of their shells and the meat has that strong rank odor so characteristic of sea Anatidae.

The bluish gray mottling of the body with the white head and neck combine to make the bird singularly conspicuous and beautiful in flight or at rest. Their call is a short cry - very goose-like in sound.

Oct. 26. Akutan Is. E. Aleutian Is.

While cruising along the N.E. & N. shores of the island on our way to Alaska we saw three or four flocks of geese. One pair found the boat directly in their line of flight and showing no fear, kept right

Gilmore 1931 EMPEROR GOOSE (7)

on their course, passing within 20 yds in apparently unagitated manner.

Evidently the Aleutians^{Is.} are the great wintering headquarters for this beautiful Goose.

Flight is steady, rather rapid for a goose, and direct. They hang well together in a long line, a staggered V or en mass if the wind is very strong. They contribute an average, tho highly desired part of the winter's food supply for the natives and other permanent residents. In lieu of their rank odor & taste from a mussel diet I can hardly appreciate the desire to have them on the table, unless the psychology built around the sound of the word "Goose" is sufficient to overcome such epicurean difficulties and stimulate a flow of the gastric juices.

Gilmore
1931

MALLARD ①

Sept. 8. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

I saw a ♀ ad. hanging near the galley of the "Northland" today. A sailor killed it somewhere up by Captain's Harbor.

Sept. 19. Saw a flock of 10-12 in Duck Lagoon back of ~~Captain's Harbor~~ Summers Bay.
Quite wary.

Oct. 2-3 English Bay, W. Unalaska Is.

I noted about a dozen of these birds at the mouth of the ^{creek} ~~river~~ flowing into the head of the bay. They were quite wary and hung together in a single flock.

Oct. 4 Ugamuk Bay, W. Unalaska Is.

There were several dozen birds along the creek mouth of the bay, and four were obtained for the table.

Three were surprised in a small creek and killed as they took wing in succession several seconds apart.

The mallards fly high, 100-300 yds, and swing around in large circles over the bay, but they never alight far from fresh water. Their roosting grounds along the banks are ~~often~~

Gilmore
1931

MALLARD (2)

of the small streams are often noticeable by the piles of droppings, much like those of chickens.

Oct. 25, Akutan, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians.
Scarce in the marshes at the head of the bay tho probably the whaling station nearby has much to do with it. Probably more common (at least so reported) at Hot Springs Bay.

Salmors
1931

Pintail Duck ①

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

Quite common - pairs to 10 or 12 in flock. The flocks resided in a bunch of sloughs & lagoons that bordered the river & when flushed they wheeled overhead & settled down nearby.

Point Hope (Igarka), Alaska, Arctic Ocean.

Aug 6. Four birds lit in a narrow shallow slough $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.E. of village.

I stalked them & from all appearances they seemed to be merely resting, ~~then~~ the bodies ~~were~~ of two were low in the grass & water. The other two were apparently on guard. (Specimens 1834-35)

Aug. 9 These birds seem to hang out in some very shallow ponds a couple of miles N.W. Here in the grass and water they rest & feed. Quite a good proportion of young in the flocks. They are quite wary & generally the watchful guard leaps into the air & takes off while danger is still several hundred yards away.

Aug 23 Pintails have become more numerous during the last week and the flocks of 3-10 may be seen

Gilmore PINTAIL DUCK (2)
1931

even be found in the slough that passes directly thru the center of the village. I saw one bird killed out of a flock of three that lit not more than 50 yds from the bridge. When the birds are on the sloughs & ponds they are very easy to stalk from the shelter of nearby hummocks & low ~~red~~ rolling elevations, and the natives get quite a few with their black powder shells. Several times I have seen flocks head directly out to sea toward the Siberian coast.

Oct. 31. I saw no Pintail Ducks in or around the Aleutian Is. nor heard of their ever being here.

Gilmore Green Winged Teal (1)

(1931)

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska One taken — they are reported to be numerous at the heads of marshes among alders & willows that fringe the creeks & ponds.

Sept. 8 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians.

A sailor on board killed a ♀ yesterday — probably up towards Captain's Harbor.

Sept. 19 — There were upwards of 50 of these little ducks on Duck Lagoon back of Captain's Harbor. Most of them were close to shore but I found one about a mile back from the lagoon on a tiny pond next to the Creek. They were shy and nervous — taking wing at the slightest provocation.

Oct. 3 English Bay W. Unalaska Is.

Several dozen of these birds haunted the stream at the head of the bay & were easily stalked. There appears to be many more ♀ plumaged birds here tho the ones I took were ♂ plumaged like ♀s. Swanson states that out west he ~~notices~~ ^{kills} many more ♂ plumaged birds than ~~here~~ ♀s.

Gilmore
1931

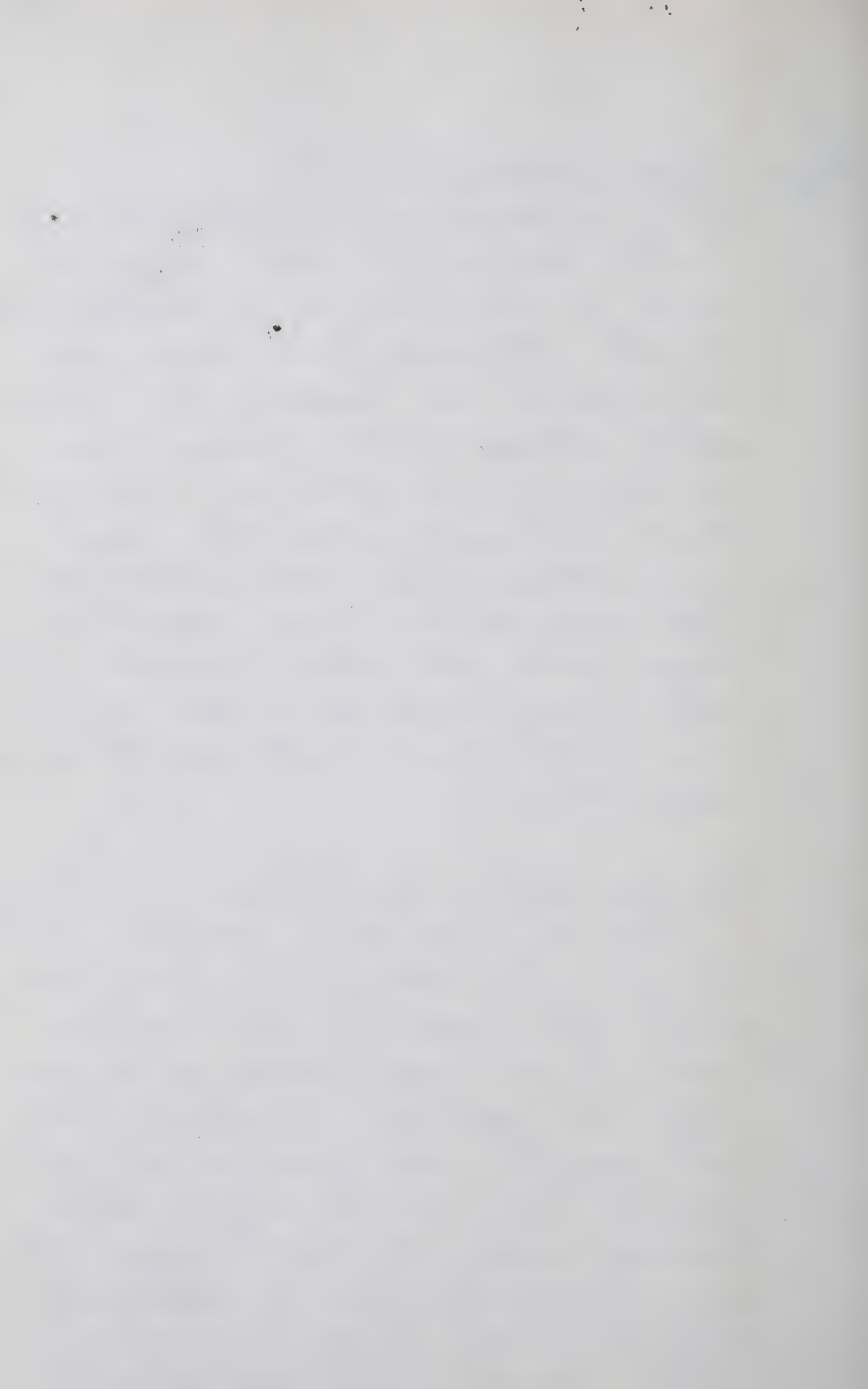
GREEN WINGED TEAL (2)

Oct. 4. Ugamigik Bay, N. Alaska Is.

There were 50-75 teal along the creeks of this bay as we hunted their lengths. They were quite wary and hung together in bunches but were easily ~~staked~~ killed because one generally flushed them at close range. When wounded they swim under water in the creeks with powerful wing strokes & are adept at hiding under the stream banks. Often they remain motionless when in full view of the hunter, attempting to escape notice thereby.

Oct. 23 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Today I found ducks inhabiting the hot springs of Hot Springs Valley, evidently preferring the warmth of the volcanic waters to the cold stream & seepage lakes. A pair were surprised at the edge of a hot spring. For the space of 4-5 seconds before ~~they~~ becoming aware of my presence, they sat contentedly preening themselves. They take ^{readily} to the heavy grass at the stream banks ^{for refuge} when flushed from



Galimore GREEN WINGED TEAL (3)
1931

their roosting or resting places on bits of sand and gravel at the edge of the water.

They ^{at first} easily stalked around the bends in the stream, they later become very wary and their sense of hearing becomes highly attuned to ~~the~~ any unusual sound for they rise in quick rapid flight at the sound of an incautious footstep when one is still out of sight.

Gilmore
1931

EUROPEAN TEAL

Oct. 3. Capt. Henry Swanson states that there is a teal out west (Atka Is. etc) that is locally known as "China Teal". Perhaps this is the European Teal. He says that they are not common but regularly a few are killed regularly ~~a few are~~ ~~killed~~ each year. They are rarely taken as far east as Unalaska Is.

Gilmore CANVASBACK ①
1931

Oct. 3 Unalaska. Canvasbacks are reported as scarce in winter. Bill Shaishnikov states that he has killed them in Captain's Bay, and Capt. Henry Swanson has killed them as far west as Atka.

Gilman 1931 HARLEQUIN DUCK ^① Histrionicus h. pacificus

May 31. Unalaska Bay - Unalaska Is., Alaska

Called "Rock Duck" - commonest duck - generally in flocks of 6-20 along the rocky shore. Saw one flock of 100± in main entrance off Summer's Bay. Most often seen very close to rocky shore; feed in several inches to several feet of water on shrimp, crustaceans etc. Often ~~perch~~ sit on the rocks. White around base of bill in ♂ is distinctive feature of color.

June 20, 1931 Gambell, St. Lawrence Is., Alaska.
One ad. ♂ skin seen in Paul's house.

June 28 Camp Collier St. Lawrence Is., Alaska
One doubtful sight record; noted only because bird seemed to have the white patches on the head.

July 5-7 Iviktook Bay (North west end), St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska -
About 5 or 6 seen near rocky head lands at west end of bay - seem to be quite scarce - found right along rocky shore - white markings conspicuous.

Sept. 19 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians, Alaska. Today I saw about a half a dozen "Rock Ducks" along the rocky

Gilmore HARLEQUIN DUCK (2)
1931

beach between town & Summer's Bay. They hang out in sheltered places among large surf beaten boulders. Their first inclination, when bent on escape, seems to be diving. I shot two but an outgoing tide carried them offshore.

Sept. 22 Unalaska. I saw several dozen of these birds today during my walk to land from Summer's Bay. However, they kept off shore because the surf was quite rough & there was no shelter ~~in~~ among the rocks.

Sept. 25 Unalaska. I saw several score of these ducks in small flocks while cruising about the N.W. part of the bay. The great majority seemed to be immatures. I noticed only 3 adult birds & and they ~~remained~~ ^{stayed} together. They were invariably found close to ~~shore~~ the rocky shore.

Sept. 30 Unalaska. This late afternoon I surprised a flock of 15 or so on the rocks of the south & killed three. Two I only obtained one for two drifted out. I first noticed three sitting on a rock at the edge of

Gilmore 1931 HARLEQUIN DUCK (3)

the ~~beach~~ water and when I fired the rest took wing from behind the rock. This is the first time I have seen these birds sitting on the rocks, out of the water.

Oct. 3 English Bay, N. Unalaska Is.

Harlequin Ducks are ~~very~~ numerous here ~~the~~ hard to approach. I noted about 200 in all and the majority were in flocks of from 15-30 and frequented the smooth water next to the rocky beach.

Capt. Henry Swanson states that he believes these birds nest in sea caves ~~attainable~~ accessible only by diving under the surface. He has seen birds dive in front of a rocky cliff & never come up. Off the rock cliff of Cape Makushin ~~to~~ he watched this phenomena happen to a flock of a dozen or so birds. In all his hunting around the Aleutian Is. he has never seen a nest, but he has seen downy young with the mother, in the water off the rocky beaches.

Gilmore
1931

HARLEQUIN DUCK (4)

Oct. 3 (cont.) Paul Ingramson, boat man on the "Kanaga Native" states that he has seen "Rock Ducks" up in the hills along streams and believes that they nest along the head waters of the creeks & streams. He seems to be quite reliable but I have my doubts about the rock duck story.

Oct. 4 Agamogik Bay, W. Unalaska Bay
Common here - there seem to be more adult ♂'s than around Unalaska.

I watched a wounded one swimming under water in about a fathom of water. It swam smoothly & powerfully, using short choppy wing strokes. The first time it dove it stayed under about a minute & a half, the next time about a minute & the next time about 10 seconds. Soon it was so exhausted that we picked it up from the surface with ease. When we lost sight of it ~~and~~ in the water, we could follow its course by a path of bubbles.

Gilmore
1931

HARLEQUIN DUCK (D)

The flocks fly in compact bunches and hang low over the water.

Oct. 13 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., N. Aleutian Is.

Fairly common here - Have seen several flocks of a dozen or so in each, during several hours of strolling along the rocky beaches.

Today when I rowed down the bay in a skiff I believe I saw a Rock Duck disappear under a rock cliff much as Swanson had reported. The single bird was in the water close to a small rocky cliff and dove. I never saw it come up so presume that it disappeared into some cave or recess under the cliff.

In the small rocky outcrop on the beach 100 yds N.E. of the whaling station, Mr. Kugler says that four ^{years} ago a Rock Duck raised a ^{brood} ~~litter~~ of young successfully.

Oct. 24 Akun Straits, E. Aleutians.

During the 5-6 hour hunt around the rocks + reefs of the narrow

Gilmore HARLEQUIN DUCK (16)

1931

pass today - Harlequin Ducks were by far the most numerous, and consequently more fell before the guns, destined for the pot. The total number I saw must have been somewhere around 500.

Their preferred haunts were the wave dashed and current swirled rocks and reefs in and on the borders of the straits. Flocks of 25-75 individuals would be found on the surface, diving or swimming among the strong tidal swirls and washes. Generally they could be easily approached if one "herded" them slightly with the boat. ~~The~~

The large flocks were invariably made up of females and immatures. I doubt if I saw more than 75 adult males all during the hunt, and then they were alone in a bunches of from 4-8, or flying with a female, ~~not~~ in a ~~flock~~ not exceeding ten in number, ^{of which the} ~~most~~ were males.

As they had to splutter with their hind feet on the surface as they rose to take wing their flight was

Gilmore HARLEQUIN DUCK (7)
1931 rapid and sure. Their line of flight
was invariably low over the water.
— A very gregarious duck! —

Gilmore OLD SQUAW ^① *Clangula hyemalis*
 1931 May 18 - Clarence Strait. - First positively
 identified today - several pairs -
 black + white coloration with long tail
 in ♂ was distinguishable.

Alaska
June 3 - Cape Etolin; Nunivak Is., Alaska
 Many of these birds around the shallow
 bay + on fresh water lakes. They
 have paired up, tho there are
 occasional lone males that try +
 break into the harmony of another
 pair + ~~is~~ promptly driven off with
 much squawking + fluttering. They
 have a peculiar love note with
 three calls, higher inflection on the
 last. Show relatively little fear when
 on the fresh water ponds + allow
 a very close approach.

June 8, St. Michael, Alaska Very common
 in the marshes. - pairs commonest -
 the breeding note of 3 ^{nasal} notes with
 rising nasal inflection on last can
 often be heard.

June 21 - July 12 Sivoonga, St. Lawrence Is.
Bering Sea Alaska. By far the
 commonest water fowl - may be

Gilmore
1931

OLD SQUAW DUCK ②

Found in numbers all along the coast & back on all the lakes & ponds. Groups vary from singles to flocks of 20-25 the pairs are commonest.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2 Saw great numbers in the many miles of lagoons between here and Cape Thompson. They are congregating in flocks now & nesting seems to be about over tho I saw no flaglings. Fs seem to be in the flocks.

Aug 6. Found a dead bird on Small Lagoon $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.E. Wing feathers gone after moult & body was in emaciated condition (Specimen 1836) and the kidneys greatly enlarged & pale in color.

Aug 7 - found another dead bird with wing flight feathers gone from moult. Saw a live one with flight feathers gone - it escaped from the shore to the water where it ~~swam~~ swam away, attempting to dive in the shallow water.

Gilmore OLD SQUAW (3)

1931

Aug. 23. These birds were not common along the sea shore but seemed to prefer the lagoons inland.

Sept. 25 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians
A. Olsen informs me that these ducks are found in appreciable numbers on the south side of the island in winter. He imitated their peculiar call note which was unmistakably that of an Old Squaw.

Oct. 3 English Bay, N. Unalaska Is., N. Aleutian Is. According to the native with whom I am staying, and Capt. A. Swanson, these ducks are very much more common in the winter than at other seasons.

Oct. 24 ~~Akun~~ Akun Straits, E. Aleutians
Today, in a bay on the Akun Is. side I saw several flocks of male birds. Each flock had about a dozen to fifteen. The flocks were very wary, quick to rise at a good distance and ~~quite~~ rapid in flight. The brilliant black and white plumage

Gilmore Old Swan (A)
1931

scintillated in the sun's reflection and the long fusiform bodies, accented in length and taper by the long tail feathers, appeared as so many torpedoes whistling thru the air.

If females were present that had separated from the males and were likely confused with Harlequin or Steller Eider Ducks. Young and immatures, if also present, were in all probability ~~running~~ flocking with the females.

Gilmore
1931

WHITE WINGED SCOTAR ① Melanitta deglandi
~~Carter~~

May 16 - Carter Bay, Imlayson Channel. B.C.

Several flocks of 8-12 in number took wing as we anchored in drizzle of rain.

Oct. 3 English Bay, E. Alaska Is., E. Aleutians. There were 25-50 of these scots in the bay but they were quite wary. Conspicuous, due to the large size, black body & white wing patch on the secondaries.

Oct. 8 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Several flocks of a dozen or so were seen in the bay today. Quite wary.

Oct. 21 Akutan Bay. Spec. 2291-92 were donated by a native who killed them from a dory powered by an outboard motor. He says they are fine eating & hard to kill. He refused \$50 for the pair in the flesh but gave the skins gratis for the same price.

Oct. 24 Akim Straits, E. Aleutian Is.

While hunting in the straits today

Gilmore 1931 WHITE WINGED SCOTAR (2)

I noticed perhaps a hundred of these large black "Coots." In open water they congregated in flocks of from 10-25 and were very wary. Along the rocky beach line with its bays and lights they split up into smaller groups and were more easily approached. Males and females are mixed indiscriminately in the groups, tho at times one may see a small group of either sex.

Black bodies of large size with white patch on the secondaries are the distinguishing color marks. The flight is heavy and labored to start with, the feet assisting in the takeoff for several yards, but once under way they fly rather swiftly approx. 35 m.p.h.

Gilmore
1931

SURF SCOTER

Melanitta perspicillata

May 16 Carter Bay - Finlayson Channel. B.C.

One flock took wing as we anchored - showed no white wing patches, like *M. deglandi*, as they flew.

May 18 - Clarence Strait. Saw one flock of 8-9 birds.

Oct. 3 English Bay, N. Unalaska Is.,
N. Aleutian Is. I saw a pair of these birds today in the middle of the bay. The white patch on the crown of the ♂ was clearly visible.

Oct. 25. Adak Is., E. Aleutian Aleutian Is.
None seen here - evidently these birds are rather scarce.

Gilmore AMERICAN SCOTAR ①

1931

Oct. 2. ENGLISH BAY, W. Unalaska Is.,

Alutian Is., Alaska. Here today I positively saw my first flock of American Scotars. A flock of 15-20 passed seaward by the boat as we were about in the center of the bay. The dull uniform black body & head, and the yellow spot on the bill were noticeable.

Oct. 24. Alcan Straits, E. Alutian Is.

Several flocks of 15-20 birds were seen in the straits today. They hung out in the areas of open water at least a quarter of a mile from land and were very wary. In flight they appeared identical with the White Winged Scotar save that there was no white whatever on the plumage.

Gilmore
1931

STELLER'S EIDER (1)

Oct. 4 Agamgik Bay, ~~N. Aleutian~~ ^{Unalaska Is.}

Aleutian Is. Spec. 2227 was alone when it was killed in the middle of the bay. It allowed us to approach within easy range in a cove. Tho it is plumaged like a ♀ it was a ♂; probably an immature.

Oct. 24 Akutan Strait, E. Aleutian Is.

We encountered one flock of about 30 of these birds in a bight of Akutan Is. just off the narrow part of the strait. The flock was composed of 4 adults ♂ showing the brown & white plumage and about 25 ♀s and immatures. Spec. 2307-08 came from this flock.

Evidently they were feeding close to the beach, and when the boat hove in sight around the nearby point they rose in a scattered body, headed away ~~from the~~ but soon circled back to within range. Only the ♂s had distinguishing color markings; the ♀s & immatures appeared a dark washed brown color.

Gilmore
1931

King Eider ①

July 12, Sevoonga St. Lawrence Is.
Bering Sea, Alaska Killed one out
of a mixed flock of King & Pacific
Eider several miles west of Camp
Collier on June 28. Those were all
of the King Eider I saw on that
trip. On July 5-7, going to &
from Iviktook Bay from Sevoonga
I saw several small flocks -
never more than 15-20. They seem
to keep well off shore - so far
I have not seen any in the
lagoons or on lakes or rivers tho
they probably breed here. They are
smaller than the Pacific Eider &
the gray head is a distinctive mark.

Arctic Ocean

July 22 off Shishmaref. C. Brower
offered the following information
From middle of July to early August
moulting ♂ King Eider are found
by thousands off Icy Cape &
are killed by hundreds by natives.
The ♀ ~~young~~ moult on the breeding
grounds along the coast & east
to N. Canada & with the young
come south along the coast

Barrow & change

Gilmore
1931

KING EIDER (2)

sometime in Aug. When the ♂'s moult they are unable to fly & hundreds are driven on the ice & killed.

Point Hope, Alaska; Arctic Ocean

Aug 2 on my trip to Cape ~~Lock~~ Thompson I flushed a ♀ eider from a small pool of water in the tundra ^{between} ~~along~~ the lagoon & beach. It seemed smaller than a Pacific Eider tho it may have been of that species. I located two chicks that at first merely swam into the grass & remained still. When touched, however, they became frantically anxious to escape & dove in the shallow water, coming up among the grass & playing possum. The ♀ flew to a lagoon 75 yds away where she stayed until a rifle bullet kicked up the water close by. Saw quite a few other eiders, some of which probably were King Eider.

Sept. 28 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska No. 2210 was taken at the mouth of Captain's Bay and ~~was~~ ^{is}

Gilmore KING EIDER (3)

1931

the only one seen to date. Evidently it came far in the harbor to take refuge from rough water outside. It was very lean.

Note from Commander E. W. Jones, Captain of Cutter "Northland".

Oct. 14, 1931 - "quite a few seen off Sledge Island."

Gilmore
1931

Pacific Eider ①

June 28 Camp Collier St. Lawrence Is.
Bering Sea, Alaska

Spec. No. 1684 had in its crop 4-5 "feet" of clams. It appeared that the bird had pulled off the "feet" as it attempted to get the whole clam out of the shell. In this vicinity the ~~beach~~^{shore} is low & sandy & the birds are generally within a quarter mile of shore & even are found sitting on the ice along the beach. When flushed they almost invariably fly up & over the tundra back from the shore - perhaps to their nests. Most of them have paired off or two males are seen competing for a female but once I saw one ♂ with 3 ♀s, and again 6 ♂s together. When frightened they never ~~seen~~ dive but take wing. However, when wounded they are expert divers and come to the surface with heads low on the water & backs just barely awash, thus making a difficult target to shoot at.



Gilmore
1931

Pacific Eider (2)

July 5-7 Sevoonga to Iviktook & return. 100 or so seen both on going trip & coming back. They were found from ^{the} beach to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile off shore (that's all the farther out we got). Sometimes ~~they~~ ^{the} ~~were~~ flocks (3-20) were made up of mostly ♂s or all males, or mostly ♀s or all ♀s. They nested on the Iviktook lagoon. One nest with 2 dark green eggs had been taken over by an Emperor Goose. Saw them up the river as far as we went, some 10 miles. On the lakes inland, the birds were almost exclusively ♀; I shot 2 out of a group of 8 ♀ as they flew over the tundra from the shallow lake where they had been feeding. Their strong even flight & the white backs of the males are distinctive features. The flesh is good eating when soaked over night in brine.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2. Among the several dozen eiders seen along the length of the sand spit - some looked large



Silmore
1931

PACIFIC EIDER (3)

enough to be Pacific.

Oct. 31. E. Aleutian Is. None seen during Sept. & Oct. and from local reports I am not certain that they are present, but logically they must. One informant spoke of filling a skiff with a large Eiders, one winter, and Swanson of the Kamaga Native states that large Eider were ~~to be found~~ seen in large flocks in Ulmuk pass immediately after the heavy storm of Sept. 20.

From notes of Commander E. V. Jones - captain of cutter "Northland"

Oct. 24, 1931 "one ♂ swimming near boat off Nome.

Salmon
1931

Spectacled Eider

June 8, St. Michael, Alaska

The only eider identified with specimens. Seen at mouth of the slough or back on the marshes.

20-25 seen altogether.

July Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Geist reports them as rare tho he has taken several.

RED BREASTED

①

Gilmore
1931AMERICAN MERGANSER Mergus setta Forst.May 31 Unalaska Bay - Unalaska, Alaska

Quite a number of these birds present. Found on lakes, along shore & in marshy ground. Beginning to lay - one fully formed egg taken from ♀. Pairs & flocks of up to 6 seen. Sometimes sit on gravel of shore line. More noticed at Broad Bay Marsh than elsewhere.

Sept. 19 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians, Alaska I saw a bunch of 6-7 on Duck Lagoon back of Summers Bay this afternoon. All appeared to be females or immatures. They were loafing in shallow water near shore and seemed almost stupidly indifferent to my approach.

Oct. 3 English Bay, W. Unalaska Is., W. Aleutian Is. A flock of 5 birds hung around the rocky north shore of the bay, and seemed loath to leave even after I had scared them up twice. They were quite wary and as they flew the white speculums and reddish heads were conspicuous.

Gilmore RED BREASTED MERGANSER (2)
1931 Oct. 9 Akutan, Akutan Is., N. Aleutians

I saw a single bird on the rocky north side of the bay at its head. It was not very wary. The first time I encountered it it was sitting among the rocks and the second time it was feeding among scattered patches of kelp about 20 yds off shore.

Gilmore
1931

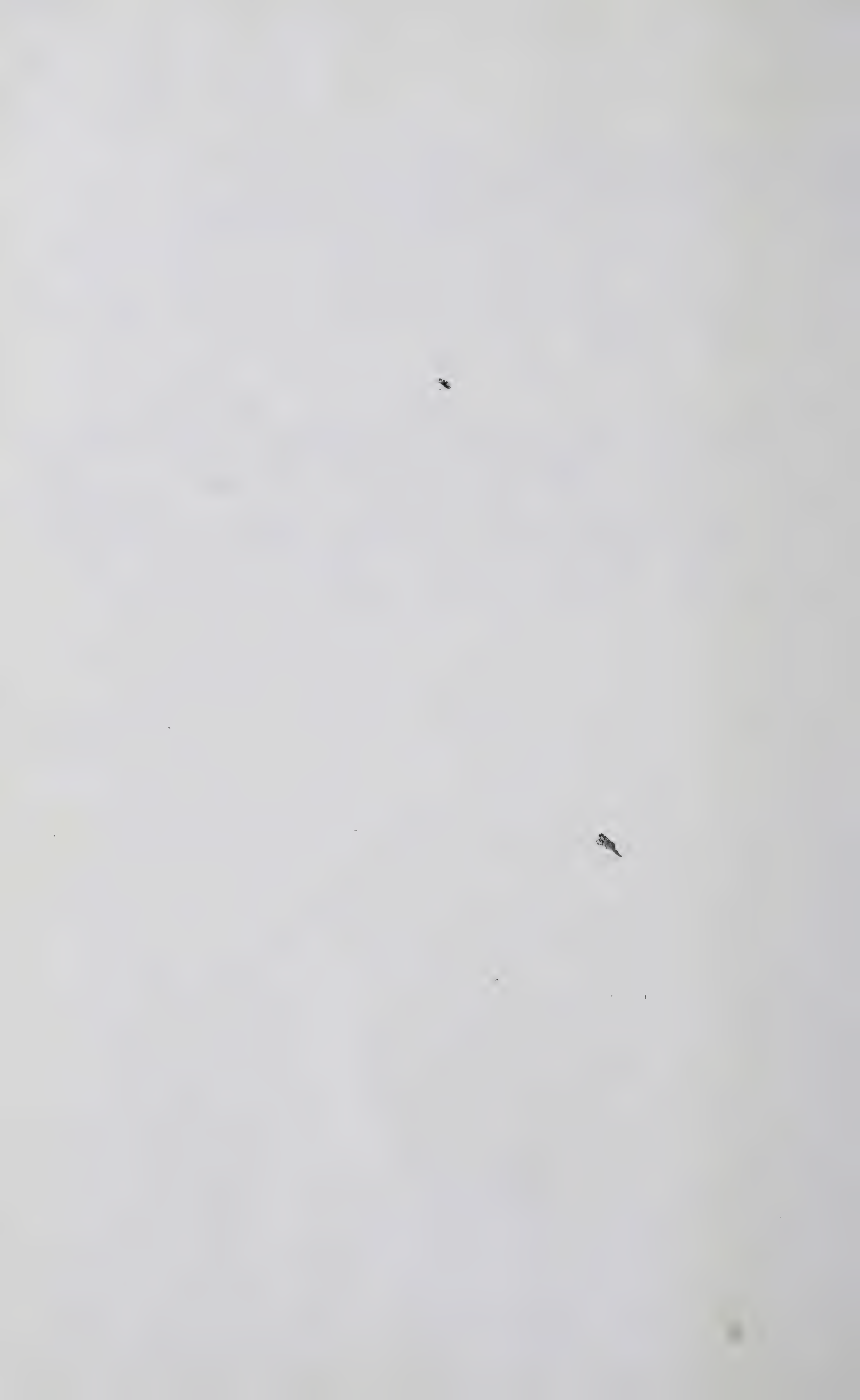
Rough Legged Hawk

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

A pair was nesting on highest (100 yd) cliffs of whale island. One taken, No. 1579

Aug 27 Elephant Pt. Kotzebue Id., Alaska

Saw a pair of these hawks ~~and~~ flying low over the rolling hills back from the beach. Took Spec. No. 2005.



Gilmore
1931

RED TAILED HAWK

Buteo borealis

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Several pairs seen in the hills. Very light colored.

Sept. 6 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians.

In the hills above Captain's Harbor, I saw several of these Hawks. They soared or hovered over the hill tops in a stiff west wind. They uttered no sound.

Sept. 19 Saw one about noon on the knife ridge west of Needle Peak. It was evidently curious to see just what I was for it appeared from nowhere and soared 50-60 yds over my head with a load of buckshot changed its mind. These Hawks seem to be quite scarce this fall perhaps the sailors from the cutters have taken toll of the population.

Gilmore
1931

MARSH HAWK (1)

Aug. 27 Elephant Pt. Kotzebue Id. Alaska

Saw several birds near the beach
and took Spec. No. 2006. These
hawks hunted low over the lush
vegetation that grew around the ice
cliffs.

Gilmore
1931
Discovery Passage
British Columbia

BALD EAGLE

May 15 - Seymour Narrows & North. Three adults of this magnificent species were seen today - a single, & a pair. The single flew low over the water & once dipped into it with his claws. Flight was labored & slow.

May 16 - Queen Charlotte St. - Finlayson Channel. quite a number seen on one small low island of rock had about 8.

May 17 - East side of Foul Bay Is. Three of these magnificent birds - full adults - were seen perched on tree tops, as we sailed up the channel. They were within 50-100 yds of each other & were evidently drying their feathers after a wetting from the rain. Their wings of one hung limply by its side & exposed the whole dorsal surface of the tail.

May 31, 1931 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Many of these birds around here, & they are the object of much persecution. Everyone tries to kill them but there are remarkably few killed. Often seen

(2)

Gilmore
1931BALD EAGLEHaliaeetus leucocephalus
alascanus

circling around tall rocky cliffs on the sea shore, - or soaring over the hills, or sitting on some promontory or sand of the beach. Probably eat a good deal of fish. May ~~be~~ be seen anytime & place. I have heard no call notes.

Sept. 18 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

The eagles are not as numerous now as they were during the latter part of May. This is due probably to two reasons. First: the sailors on the three cutters in the harbor having been killing many for sport & the natives ~~having~~ have been killing them for the bounty of 1⁰⁰ per each pair of claws. And second: the fish have left the vicinity & the natives claim the eagles leave with the fish & follow them to their spawning grounds in the streams of the mainland.

Of the three or four eagles I have seen around here, about half were immatures and half adults.

Gilmore BALD EAGLE (3)
1931

Sept. 19 Unalaska (cont.) I saw 7-8 eagles today in a long walk over the mountains to Sumner's Bay. Some were in very ragged plumage.

There is a finger rock some 75-100 ft. high standing in the surf at the west end of Sumner's Bay and from all appearances it seems to be the nesting site for a pair of eagles. I saw two perched on the round, 4' diameter, grassy top as I walked by there today.

Oct. 4. Agassiz Bay, N. Unalaska Is.

Three adults were seen along the rocky cliffs at the north entrance to the bay. Yesterday in English Bay I noticed a pair of immatures loitering about the head of the bay.

Oct. 25. Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Sporadic in numbers around the hills & mountains in the vicinity. Generally seen along the rocky cliffs of the beach, or above the nearby peaks. Mostly immatures.

Gilmore
1931

PIGEON HAWK

~~REAL FALCON~~

Oct. 3. English Bay, N. Unalaska Is.,
N. Aleutian Is., Alaska. Today I
got three shots at one, and tho the
military reception was mighty hot it
evidently wasn't lethal. I was standing
in some beached kelp at the shallow
head of the bay when Mr. Falcon
came flying low along the shore thru
a flock of seagulls whom he did not
molest. After one shot he circled
back and two long range shots only
served to definitely make up ^{its} mind
to get out and stay out.

The Aleuts at the berraberi say
that they see one every so often.

~~See Black Hawk!!~~

Gilmore DUCK HAWK ①

1931

Sept. 19 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

Over the peaks east of Cascade Falls & about 4 miles S.E. of town I have repeatedly seen a large Falcon Hawk, and today I made an unsuccessful effort to get one. One almost came within range as I was climbing a rocky steep shoulder of the peak but it was the closest any came. While I was lying on the steep slope, a pair flew rapidly westward & high above my head uttering a high pitched tremulous trilling cry. It was very distinctive but I have never heard it before.

These hawks, (perhaps they are Gyrfalcons) soar & flap for hours about the high peaks & rock cliffs and seem to resent the intrusion of a raven or eagle. They promptly drive the raven away and annoy the eagle considerably. I have never seen one perched or sitting on the rocks or ground.

Sept. 22 Unalaska. I saw one about the high sea cliffs between town & Ammers Bay today.

Gilmore Duck Hawk (2)
1931

Sept. 28 Unalaska, Over Pyramid Peak I saw three, two adults and one immature (smaller in size). The adults merely soared high overhead but the young one, darted about the crags and vainly attempted to drive away a flock of 6 Ravens. This I watched up on a shoulder of the mountain for half an hour. I could not get a shot at the Hawk.

Oct. 13 Akutan Bay, Akutan I., N. Aleutian Is.

Mr. Pederson, Captain & Gunner at the whaling station here, says he has seen the following incident several times in Akun Pass by a hawk which was probably a Duck Hawk, tho it might have been a Pearl Falcon.

From the bridge of the whaling boat he has seen a hawk swoop down and snatch an auklet (Least or Whiskered) out of the water and eat it on the wing. The actual eating took place on the downward glides, so that the flight of the hawk was a series of flights and glides. This, he has seen

Pearl Falcon

Gilmore Duck Hawk (3)
 1931 at close range several times.

Oct. 14 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is. W. Aleutians
 I saw a Duck Hawk today at a distance just out of gunshot range as it playfully made some passes at three Ravens. ~~and~~ a little later it threw consternation into a flock of Rosy Finches. Both demonstrations took place about 200 ft below the crest of the rocky ridge back of the whaling station.

Oct. 24. Akun Straits, E. Aleutian Is.
 Today I had a good view of several Duck Hawks hunting over the waters of the pass. One flew almost within range while we were "rounding up" a ~~flock~~ flock of Harlequin Ducks and the other was striking at ducks flying low over the water. Twice I saw the latter hawk strike. The first time the object was a lone scoter who dove into the water from a height of 5 to 6 feet without hesitation. The second time the plunge of

Galunore Duck Hawk (4)
1931

the hawk was avoided by a quick turn in flight on the part of the duck, a Harlequin.

These ducks evidently reside on the rocky islands and sea cliffs along the straits.

In flight they seem to labor to some extent and their glides are short but when they plunge in a strike, their motion is incredibly swift. One wonders where or how they can muster such momentum and speed in so short a time and apparently out of nothing. Their color seems to be dark grayish brown with a faint mottling.

Oct. 31 Unumak Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

About 2:00 P.M. today, while we were in the middle of the pass heading South on board the "Northland", a Duck Hawk flew very close over the boat. For a half a minute it hovered over the boat deck and then flew off. We were about 3 miles from land & probably the hawk was hunting sea birds in the pass.

Gilmore
1931

ROCK PTARMIGAN (1) Lagopus rupestris

May 24 Solgi Harbor, Solgi Is., Alaska

Three birds seen - one single, prob
♀ + 1 pair. Pair collected. ♂
did the watching & ♀ hid. Found
on top of ridge on open ground.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Have seen the sailors killed two.
Wouldn't turn 'em over to me 'cause
"spoiled" them for eating. Probably
much hunted by men & dogs &
consequently scarce. Nobody observes
any game laws around here. Sailors
kill anything, anytime.

Aug 25 Cape Thompson, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

In a couple of hours hiking ~~to~~ in the
hills back of the cape I saw but
one which became Spec. No. 1977.
No ♀ call notes when it flew up.

Sept 18. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians.

During the past 10 days I have
covered much territory south, east
& west of town & have not seen a
single ~~rock~~ Ptarmigan. Persistent
hunting by men & foxes have probably

Gilmore
1931

ROCK PTARMIGAN (2)

all but exterminated them near by. However, I hear that there are still a few on Ballyhoo Mt. on Unaknak Is. and a hunter is reputed to have killed a dozen over west at Roos Bay a short time ago.

Ptarmigan don't seem to stand the encroachments of civilization or foxes very well. Nesting on the ground their home life is always in danger, and being a delicious table bird their existence is always one of persecution. Sept. 19 Spec. 2165 - came from a shoulder of the west mountain at the canyon back of Duck Lagoon at Summer's Bay. It was alone, & so far, is the only one I have seen.

Oct. 14 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., N. Aleutians.

Specimen 2261 was taken on the top of the rocky peak just back of the whaling station. As I was climbing up the steep crumbly face of the north face with hands as well as feet, I notice a ptarmigan fly upward & around a pinnacle above. The snow was falling heavily in large mushy

Gilmore
1931

ROCK PTARMIGAN (3)

Gakes and soon three more flew around the rocks just below the summit and lit on separate rocks some 10-15' apart a hundred yards or so above me. As I finger-nailed upward they moved upward also but more slowly and soon I was in range. They sat motionless on the rocks + looked about. Often I could see nothing more than a head protruding over a rock. The victim ~~flew~~ fell and tumbled floppingly 300 feet below to the rock slide. I had just ascended, and the others disappeared around the peak.

I had certainly never expected to see Ptarmigan up in such surroundings.

Oct. 18 Akutan. I walked around the flat at the head of the bay in the sporadic snowstorms today, and found that the Ptarmigan had been driven down off the hill tops by the snow storm. Hitherto they have been on the tops of the adjacent ridges and peaks. They made no vocal demonstration at rest or

Silmore Rock Ptarmigan (4)
1931 in flight.

Oct. 21. Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians.

Today I secured 3 specimens, all from the side of the rocky ridge on the N.W. side of the bay. They were in small groups (those that I saw) from 2-4 in number. Snow covering the rocks of the peaks & ridge crests makes their former habitat uninhabitable. In winter, the MacSaskans, say, the ptarmigan gather in great numbers in the flats & valleys close to the shore.

Gilmore
1931

Willow Ptarmigan

June 16, Nome, Alaska

Said to be on increase after several years of scarcity. Reminders are said to trample many nests & eat eggs.

July 31 Cape Thompson, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Flushed one from damp tundra at the base of the hills. It uttered its usual jarring discordant note when it flew. Showed large amount of brown in its plumage. Perhaps it was a Rock Ptarmigan!

Gilmore GOLDEN PLOVER (1)
1931

July 20, Klein Mission, Port Clarence,
Alaska. Assoc. wide flat gravelly
creek bed thru dry bare country.
at least a half dozen of these
birds hung around the scanty
trickle of water. Generally flew
ahead of me, well out of range,
uttering clear hissing whistles
& short trills. Black belly & long
jointed wings conspicuous.

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska.

August 19. Noticed today for the
first time and in considerable numbers.
Generally went in pairs & saw one flock
of eight. Fed on the gravelly tundra
and along the shallow ponds. Black
bellies gone & no call notes heard. Not
wary. They were a dignified birds
as they fed, walking slowly and
picking up the food with evident
discrimination. Their flight is straight,
swift and strong.

August 22 Common over the sand
& gravel sections of the tundra &
along the ponds & sloughs. Have a
clear melodious call whistle of two notes.

Silmore
1931

GOLDEN PLOVER (2)

Oct. 21 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Spec. 2286 was killed on a low bare saddle of a ridge on the N.W. side of the bay. It uttered a melodious whistle like a meadow lark, and flew about 100 yds. quartering up the hill and with the wind. It was alone.

Silmore PECTORAL SANDPIPER ①
1931

Figata, Point Hope, Alaska. Arctic Ocean

Aug. 9 First seen today around the small ponds & sloughs nearby.

Aug 11 Very many about wet places on gravelly section of the peninsula. Migration seems to be at its height.

They have a short querulous hissing whistle which they utter softly as they fly about their feeding grounds.

August 14 Still a great many present. ^{Numbers}

August 22 Still present in considerable ^{Numbers}.

The following are the strange antics of three birds. When first noticed by their peculiar low whistle they were about a damp spot on gravelly section of point peninsula. When flushed they flew rapidly up into the air until they became mere specks, uttering the whistling note as long as I could hear them. Then they flew back down with a terrific burst of speed & now there were only two. Flew about original spot again until one was shot.

Gilmore
1931

Semipalmated Sandpiper ①

June 3. Cape Etolin, Nirmwak S. Alaska

These small sandpipers are common on the damp tundra & around the swamps & lakes. — Performing courtship antics — Pair off & fly around each other often sailing slowly to ground on ~~the~~ motionless wings held almost vertical. When on the ground they often utter a soft stridulent chutttt with rolled t's. — Took a specimen & identified it by its partially webbed feet.

Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean

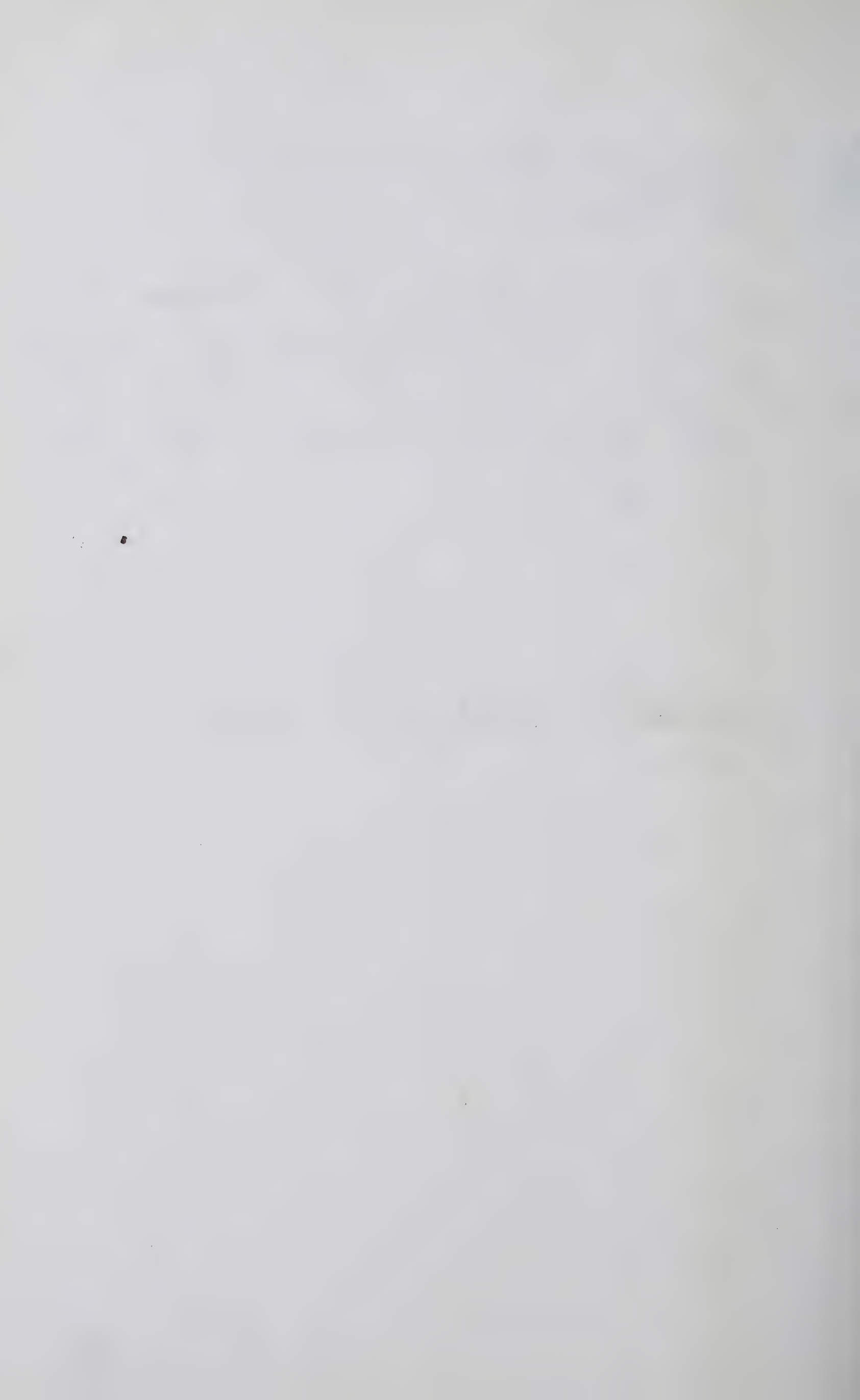
Aug 5. Tigara. Saw a small flock of a dozen or so feeding in very wet grass.

Took one. No 1870

Aug 11. these little sandpipers seem to be as much at home on the sand & gravel of lagoon & sea shore as on the damp grass of the tundra. On a very foggy windy night I saw many flocks on the tundra & around the lagoons. They are nervous little birds, starting up in swift zigzag flight at some imaginary danger, & then settling down to feed as if nothing

Gilmore Semipalmated Sandpiper (2)
1931 had happened.

Oct. 31 E. Aleutian Is. I saw none
of these tiny sandpipers here during
the fall (Sept. & Oct.). Evidently on
their migrations south they fail
to stop over.



Gilmore
1931

Ruddy Turnstone

St. Michael, Alaska, June 8

Quite Common on Marshes.

July 20 Teller Mission, Port Clarence, Alaska

On flat wide gravelly creek bed I made questionable sight identification of this bird. Black & white is all I can say for the distinctive marks, as it was very shy & would not allow me within gun shot.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska.

July 29 when walking to reindeer camp I saw several of these birds & shot one which mysteriously disappeared from the small tent at the camp. Evidently these birds nested for they were quite perturbed at my intrusion. Flying about & then alighting on the gravel. They uttered a peculiar cry when in the air. The specimen obtained showed the typical black & white head & neck, white breast & reddish back.

Aug 13 Spec. 1882 was shot on ~~base~~ gravelly tundra. Another was present which, tho wounded, made good its escape. They are the first seen since ~~the~~ July 29.

Silmore
1931

Ruddy Turnstone (2)

Tigara Point Hope, Alaska.

Aug. 19. No. 1931 was taken on gravelly tundra. Only one seen; evidently they are quite scarce.

Aug 22. Took two today - they were singles in with flock of Red Backed Snappers and Golden Plover ^{res-}~~pec-~~tively. They were quite wary and generally flew quite a long distance away in a rapid zigzag flight when flushed. Their quick banks and turns in flight are so rapid as to be almost eye-deceiving. Their general sharply marked black & white coloration, mostly white, is the characteristic sight features.

Sept. 18 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

I have seen 4 or 5 birds so far here and all were along the South side of the bay - between the town and Summers Bay. Generally they are in groups of 2-3 and seem to prefer the steep gravelly sections of the beach where they sit or feed among the rocks & pebbles at some distance from the waters edge. In this environment they

Gilmore 1931 RUDDY TURNSTONE (3)

are very difficult to detect and when they fly ~~without~~ the motion thru the air is swift and only moderately jerky. So far they have been a very silent bird.

Oct. 31. E. Aleutians. None seen after
Oct. 1.

Gilmore
1931

Jack Snipe
Game 86, Nome, Alaska

Notes from actions of specimen 1614.
It flew in large circles ($\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
in diam.) and 200 yds high. Flight
was a series of rises & downward
dips, a peculiar quavering scrunch-
owl sort of noise made by voice
or wings on each down dip.
After few minutes it set on old
hoast! Whole ^{proceeding} took place on tundra
west of Nome - much water ~~in~~ in
form of ponds & seepages present.



Silmore 1931 LONG BILLED DOWITCHER ①

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska.

Aug 10, Spec. 1851 is ~~labeled~~ noted as Solitary Sandpiper but is of this species. Encountered in dusk of evening as it was feeding alone along shallow pond.

Aug 19 Noted every day or so in tundra, but generally around the shallow ponds. Perhaps a dozen or so may be seen ~~in~~ a day. Generally in flocks of from 4 to 6 and their flight is rapid, ^{and} erratic, many twists & turns as they fly. When feeding they appear quite stately, and they walk ~~for~~ deliberately & probe discriminately with their long bills in the water & grass. The fine evenly black & white barred tail and long bill are distinctive ~~of~~ sight features. They have a plaintive querulous note, generally uttered when they are flushed from their feeding grounds in no great state of fright.

Aug 22 Numbers have been increasing during the last few days. Flocks of 10-30 are common now. Alarm note is a rattling call much like a robin,



Gilmore 1931 LONG BILLED DOWITCHER (2)

and when flying about over their feeding grounds, the shallow ponds & tiny lagoons, they utter a rapid fire "psheet psheet". The white patch on the middle of the lower back is very conspicuous. After being flushed a flock will nervously fly up & down a pond or around a marshy area in an erratic zigzag course, twittering constantly in this shrill psheet notes before alighting again to feed.

Gilmore
1931

Wandering Tattler

Unalaska Sandpiper ①

Sept. 18, 1931 Unalaska, Unalaska Is.

Alutians. This species is represented by the above name in the list of species & also by Nos. 2072-2077 & 2107. I don't know what it is so have given it the name of Unalaska Sandpiper. Probably it will turn out to be a Yellow Legs or something else as common.

It was first noted on Shashnikof Creek by Capt. Jones & Lieut. Comm. Bradbury. They described it well & said it was "noisy." Spec. 2072 was killed by Bill Wooley while we were hunting the stream & it was not noisy. No. 2077 was taken on Pyramid Creek, also by Bill Wooley, and 2107 was taken by me on the creek flowing into the lake just south of town (which I might just as well call Seagull Lagoon because so many seagulls hang around there.) No. 2017 had a very slight teetering action as it stood on a rock in the stream.

The other two 2124 & 2136 inhabited a rocky section of the beach about a mile south east of here. They generally

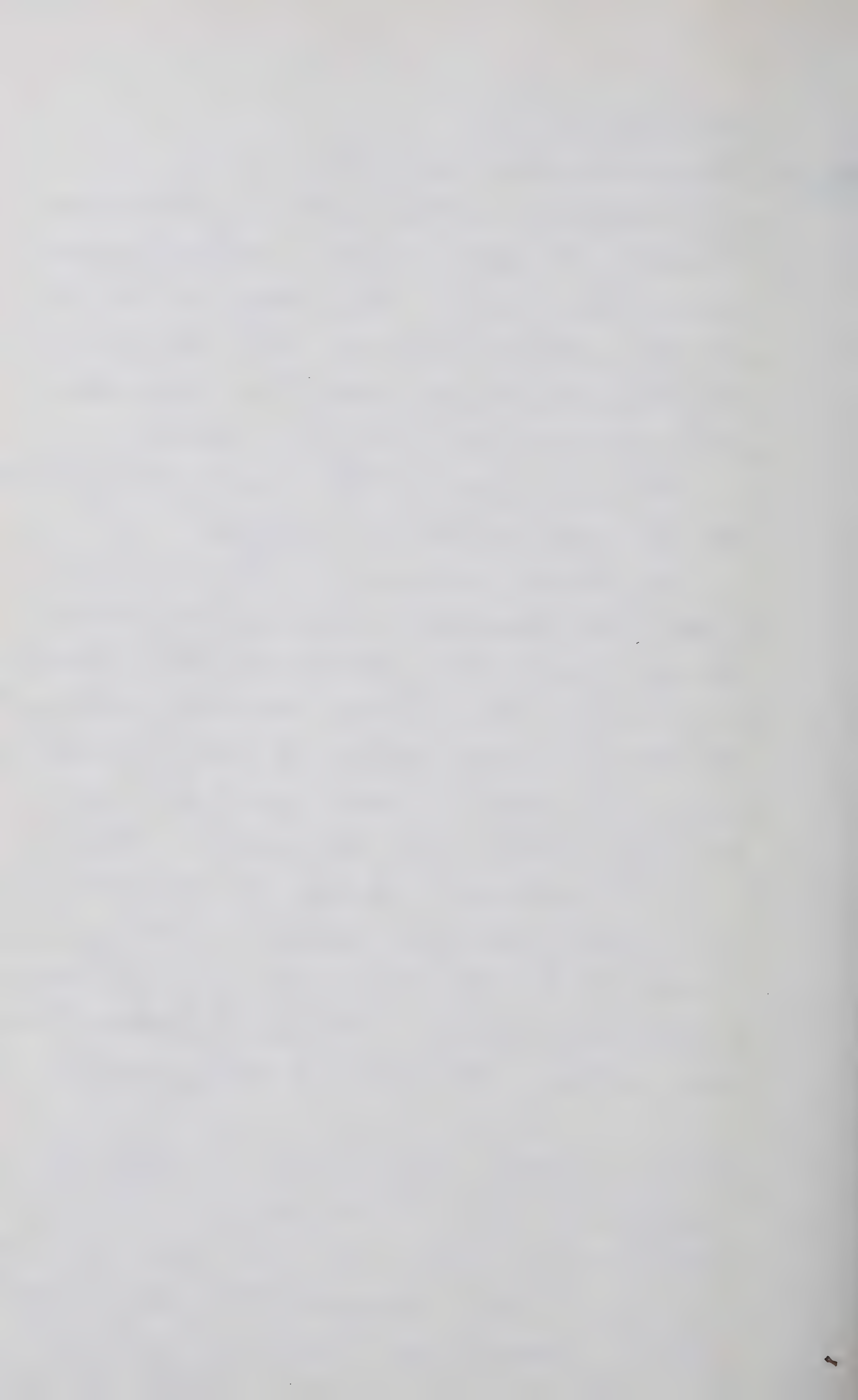
Wandering TattlerGalmore
1931Anaslaska Sandpiper (2)

took wing at 50-75 yds & flew some hundreds of yards before alighting again on a large rock in the surf or on the boulder strewn beach. The second of the pair remained about in the same vicinity until it too fell victim.

When in flight they had a high pitched tho low ~~low~~ staccato whistle.

Are locally known as "Gray Snipe"! Sept. 22 Anaslaska. I surprised one feeding among the rocks on the beach in front of town today & as it flew up to come to earth again a short distance away, it uttered a ~~short~~ rapid fire series of short shrill "see see see's". While in the undecided mood it demonstrated its slight teetering action. While feeding it stuck to the very edge of the surging & retreating water. Tho ~~not~~ following each wave back out like a Ganderling.

Oct. 9 Akutan, Akutan Is., N. Aleutian Is.
Spec. No. 2255 was encountered on the north shore at the head of the bay. It was among the rocks when first scared up and it flew out over the water and back to the



Wandering TattlerGilmore
1931Unalak Sandpiper (3)

beach some 200 yds behind me. When I returned it was hiding or feeding up in the grass about 10 yds from the water's edge. It flew out over the water on rapid jerky wing beats when I was still 100 yds away. I crouched and watched. Its rapid flight soon slowed up, it made a big circle and headed straight back for me, finally flying close enough for me to shoot. Perhaps its feeding or hiding place was very desirable so, not seeing me, it returned.

Gilman
1931

PRIBILOF SANDPIPER Arguetella

July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska - Quite common
here - found on tundra, lakes, &
rivers but rarely seen along the
shore. Have been confused on this
form. There seem to be two forms,
identical except for size. One
has a bill under $1\frac{1}{4}$ " & body
under 9" & the other is larger.
Nelson gives the bill measurements
of 2 Pribilof Sandpipers as over $1\frac{1}{4}$ "
Both kinds are found indiscriminately
with Red Backed Sandpiper.
One nest contained 4 pyriform
eggs of dark color & darker blotches.
They have a variety of call notes
which they utter from the ground
or while in flight. When feeding
they have a shrill call like a
Flicker or Woodpecker & when on
the wing have a short shrill trill.
The trill resembles that of the Red
Backed Sandpiper but shorter in
duration. The nest was a fairly
well concealed hollow in the grass.



Gilman
1931.

Alutian Sandpiper Argentella ①
May 24 Dolgoy Harbor Dolgoy I., Alaska.
 Dr. Furness, dentist, killed one ♀ with
 fully formed egg.

May 31 Unalaska Unalaska Is., Alaska
 Saw one? - single, down on marsh
 along Shaishnikov Creek at Capt.
 Harbor.

Sept 17. Unalaska, Alaska
 All the specimens listed as being ~~under~~
Sharp Tailed Sandpiper probably belong
 to this species. I was confused at
 first due to the striking change of
 plumage.

They seem to prefer the boulder-strewn
 and gravelly sections of the beach and
 I have not seen them away from the
 beach here as yet. Among these boulders
 and rocks they feed with deliberation
 and when approached, "freeze" in position
 until the danger is past or compels
 them to take wing. Generally seen
 singly or in bunches up to five. When
~~of~~ one of a flock is dropped, the rest
 circle back again & again. Seem to
 be a very silent bird.

Gilmore
1931

ALEUTIAN SANDPIPER (2)

Sept. 18 (Same locality) I took three more which seems to be almost the last of the flock of almost a dozen that hung out on the gravelly-sandy beach at the S.E. end of town. Their note when in flight seems to be a harsh high pitched cry. It is so low as to be scarcely audible.

I have only seen them pull their wing stretching strut once.

Sept. 19 On the rocky wave washed beach at the west entrance to Summer's Bay I saw a pair feeding. They flew around the swifly pounded boulders at my approach & seemed much at home in the flying spray.

Sept. 22 Uvalaska. I found these birds common among the wave pounded rocks & rocky beaches in Summer's Bay. At first they allowed me to approach to 8-10 feet as they perched on ~~a~~ the lee side of a large rock. However, after a little shooting they became rather wary tho they never left the vicinity entirely, generally flying a hundred yds. or so ~~off~~ away from the place they were flushed. Their alarm note seems

Gilmore 1931 ALEUTIAN SANDPIPER (3)
to be a sharp shrill "pseet-pseet"

Oct. 3 English Bay N. Unalaska Is., N. Aleutian Is. I saw about 30 of these birds today. Their habitat is certainly the rocky spray covered promontories and rocky boulder strewn beaches. They were quite tame and stood nervously on the rocks half crouched and ready for flight as I approached to within 8-10 feet of them. Their flight when disturbed was short and jerky, carrying them only a few rods. I could follow a flock for hundreds of yards along the beach.

Oct. 9 Akutan, Akutan Is., N. Aleutian Is. I saw perhaps 50-75 along the rocky beach between the village and the head of the bay. They haunted the rocky headlands & boulders of the beach. I followed one flock of a dozen for a quarter of a mile, easily walking to within 10 or 15 yds of them and killing one with the net before the rest flew. Their dark coloration blended perfectly with the dark

Gilmore
1931

ALEUTIAN SANDPIPER (4)

rocky background and I walked up to within 10 feet of some before seeing them and generally my first sensation of their presence was when they suddenly flew up right before me. They certainly "lie close" and perhaps they try to hide among the rocks as a method of escape. Their absolute lack of wariness ~~certain~~ seems rather stupid. Even shooting into the flock does not scare them more than 50 yds. away. They utter a squeaking short note of alarm when frightened to take flight.

Gilmore
1931

Red Backed Sandpiper

Sivoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea.

July 12 These sandpipers were very common everywhere over the damp tundras. They utter a peculiar trill, & have the peculiar mannerism of ^{often} stretching ~~the~~ one wing vertically above them when on the ground. Easily confused with the Pribilof Sandpiper, which has, however, the black higher on the breast & neck & no clear cut line between the black & white.

Tigara Pt. Hope Alaska

Aug. 4 Saw half a dozen flocks of 10-20 birds feeding on the tundra around the village. They did not seem to be working in any direction, tho I presume they have started their southward migration. The plumage is as usual save the red on the back is less distinct.

Aug. 19. These birds are still quite numerous on the tundra & along the shallow ponds. Spring and autumn plumages about half & half. I saw some large flocks of 20 or more feeding on the tundra today.

Gilmore BLACK OYSTER-CATCHER
1931

MAY 24 Dolgai Harbor, Dolgai Is., Alaska.
I saw several of these birds along the rocky beach. They were quite wary.

Sept. 19. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian
Is., Alaska. I have not seen any here
as yet but they are reported to be
"common" at Raven Bay on the
South side of the island. From Paul
McLarson of Aleutian Is. I learned
that they are quite common on the
islands east of here (Unalaska).

Gilmore NORTHERN PHALAROPE Lobipes lobatus
1931

May 18 Sea log. Today I saw for the first time ~~positive~~ large flocks of what were positively these birds. Some of the flocks numbered 200-250 individuals which acted & functioned as a unit especially in flight, tho the action impulse took a second or two ~~for it~~ to travel ~~thru~~ thru the flock & thus the movements at times seemed rhythmically wavy or sinuous.

The flocks seemed to be migrating north to the breeding grounds. Thru the glasses the black on back, ~~the~~ neck and breast and white belly was distinguishable.

May 20 - Up to Yakutat Bay - seen all along in flocks of 50 - 200 - most numerous in Jay Strait.

One or two small flocks seen in Gulf of Alaska on route today.

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

Very common in marshes

June 12, Unalakleet Alaska

Very common in marshes.

Gilmore
1931

NORTHERN PHALAROPE (2)

Sept. 3 just W. Unalaska Several hours before we got to Unalaska I noticed a number of flocks of Phalaropes which I took by their very light color to be of this species. Least Aukslets + Slender Billed Shearwaters were in sight at the same time.

Probably Red
Phalarope!

Gilmore
1931

Red Phalarope ♂

June 20 Gambell, St. Lawrence Is., Alaska.

3 seen in house, killed yesterday on lake ^{east} ~~west~~ of town. Said to be numerous.

July 12, Savoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Very common here - generally found in the wet areas near the coast, tho rarely seen in the salt water except when it is very calm.

Tigara, Pt. Hope, Alaska

Aug 4. Saw numerous small flocks flying west along the north beach & a few flying east along the south beach. Migrating south? - Red less intense on the breast.

Aug 7, Tigara. Saw hundreds of these "sea-snipe" today. The north beach was rough under a strong N.W. wind & right outside the breaker line (20 yds or so) ~~lay~~ ^{sat} shagging lines of these birds. These string out flocks continued for ^{the} several miles that I walked along. On a small lagoon just in from the beach they were also very common, feeding nervously at the edge of the waves & hardly heeding my approach.

Gilmore
1931

RED PHALAROPE (2)

at all. About half the individuals ~~were~~ showed red on the breast & belly & the other half were either in or almost in the winter plumage.

Aug 9. Foggy, windy night. Many R. Phalarope on tundra & lagoon. For the first time I noticed a note - a short shrill "tsip - tsip."

Aug 22 Getting much scarcer - very few birds show red on breast & belly.

SEPT 30 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska During the last week I have seen quite a few of these birds. Perhaps 50 or so may be seen in one flock in the inner harbor, or perhaps 2-3 may be found straggling along.

Oct. 2 Unalaska Red Phalaropes seem to be getting more numerous. Today as we cruised out of the harbor for English Bay I saw several hundred all told. Generally they were in scattered pairs or triplets; only occasionally a flock of several doz. or more. The separated birds allowed us to approach very close before

Gilman 1931 RED PHALAROPE. (3)

taking wing, and then they flew only a short ^{distance}, before they suddenly lit on the surface of the water again like an animated, active cork. The flocks, however, never allowed a close approach. This difference of behavior in the matter of wariness or skittishness, may be due to a difference of psychology - one an individual action and the other a group action. In the latter case the action of one ~~may~~ is invariably followed immediately by the others, and as each flock ~~must~~ will contain at least one nervous individual its ~~action~~ behavior as a unit is generally started by the nervous bird.

Oct. 3 English Bay, V. Alaska Is., V. Aleutians
I saw about a dozen birds in the shallow water at the head of ~~the~~ the bay. They were feeding with the peculiar ~~Photo~~ jerky phalarope action among some beached kelp. They were noticed occasionally out in Unalga Pass in small flocks of from 10 - 20.



Gilmore RED PHALAROPE (4)
1931

Dec. 26. Akutan Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

Noted in large flocks in Akutan Pass while crossing. The trip of the 7th also found them in the pass. On the 26th they lay in flocks of from 25-75 on the rough waters, apparently resting.

The white sides of the heads & the black streak running down the back of the neck were conspicuous.

Gilmore
1931 Pomarine
Parasitic Jaeger ①

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

a dozen or so large Jaegers were seen over the marshes & doubtfully identified as this species. They were about as common as the Long Tailed Jaeger and habits seemed similar.

June 23 Savoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Alaska.

Quite common - generally found over tundra. Found one nest and took the parent birds. The nest was a mere slight depression on ~~almost bare~~ tundra almost bare of grass; ~~two~~ and contained two rather large eggs of dark background and dark blotches. The parent birds refused to leave the ~~sp~~ vicinity and continually soared over the nest occasionally making a sally at the intruder. They fed on the numerous microtus - Mr. Geist killed one that was feeding on the body of a mouse.

July 12, Savoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Quite common here & over island. Generally seen over the tundra along

Gilmore 1931 Pomarine }
Parasitic Jaeger (2)

the shore, tho I have seen them a quarter of a mile out from shore around the ice. Occasionally they chase the Kittiwakes. They seem to be very curious & often swoop within a few yards of one's head showing no fear at all. of even a group of men around a boat.

July 23, Several Miles N.W. Cape Blossom
Kotzebue Sound Alaska. At anchor here tho I have observed about a dozen of these birds that hang around the ship. Two are in the dark phase but intermingle freely with the light. Early this morning, 5 A.M., Mr Brower watched a couple of Jaegers drive a Kittiwake around in scandalous fashion. The Jaegers have evidently driven off most of the Kittiwakes but they do not seem to molest the larger Glaucous Gulls of which there are about 25 here.

Gilmore
1931

POMARINE JAEGER (3)

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2 during the last five days spent on the sand spit between the village (Igara) + Cape Thompson, I saw many of these jaegers & the one shot at the reindeer camp was a Pomarine.

Often seen singly or in pairs, either flying over the lagoons & land, or perched on some slight raise in the ground. Seemed to be more numerous near the village (seaward half of the peninsula) than nearer the foothills.

Aug 7 Saw 4-5 along the north shore today - some of them hung out over the rough water, well out from land.

August 22 Seem to be getting scarce - Saw only one in a 15 mile hike over the peninsula, around lagoons etc.

Gilmore Long Tailed Jaeger ①
 1931 June 8 St. Michael, Alaska.

Several dozen or so seen as they flew over the tundra and marshes back of town. Their long tails are very conspicuous as they fly. They, together with Parasitic seem to be more common than gulls. Probably they feed on mice and eggs.

June 23 Savoonga, St. Lawrence Is. Alaska
 Saw one feeding on body of Microtus that it had caught. It sat on a slight rise on side of low hill near beach and tore at its kill. So engrossed in its work was it, that it allowed me to approach to within 10 yds and kill it with the ax.
 Again - I watched one hunt and its actions closely resembled those of a Marsh Hawk. It hovered on beating wings about 20 yds up and then glided & flew off to another spot where it repeated the performance.

Gilmore
1931 Long Tailed Jaeger (2)
July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is.
Bering Sea, Alaska

During the latter part of June, I saw several every time I went out but since then have seen none.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2 Saw several pairs near the village. Aug. 7. Saw 2 today in a 6-7 mile hike along the north shore.

August 25 Have not seen any for a couple of weeks - perhaps they have gone south.

Gilmore
1931

Glaucous Gull ①

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

Quite common on marshes - rarely seen in flocks of more than four. Often inquisitive & fly over to investigate boat.

July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska

Not very common tho occasionally one sees the large pure white bird flying singly or in small groups along the beach line. Very cautious & wary, generally remaining well out of range.

July 18, Nome, Alaska. Common in the harbor - along with P. Kittiwakes, & a Jaeger or two, they hang around to get the garbage. Strangely, I saw none when I came into Nome first, on June 6.

Seen along coast when stops were made at Teller, & Kotzebue.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2. During my reconnaissance of

Gilmore
1931

GLAUCOUS GULL (2)

the Point Hope peninsula. I saw great numbers of these gulls. Their large white forms could be made out at long distances on the tundra, over the gravel or water. They were continually to be found along the beach in small groups & occasionally in large numbers about the stranded or cut carcasses of white whales or walrus. Occasionally they were to be seen in small groups sitting on the tundra near some lagoon. They are quite wary & carefully keep out of gunshot, generally flying just out of range & alighting on the water. They are magnificent birds, very conspicuous & dignified. ~~Once in a while~~ On one occasion I saw a flock of 7-8 flying 400 ± yds up & uttering very goose-like cries.

Aug 7. Especially numerous on the small lagoon to the N.E. They sat in compact groups in the shallow water on the windward side of the lake. Very wary!

August 22 Seem to be getting less

Gilmore
1931

GLAUCOUS GULL (3)

numerous tho they may occasionally be seen flying along the beach or back on the lagoons. They have a couple of calls - one is a raucous screech, a cross between the caw of a crow & the shrill scream of a flicker & the other is the typical gull squawk. Former is repeated half a dozen times or so in one breath. Very ~~sup~~ suspicious and wary.

Aug 25 Cape Thompson, Alaska - Scarce. in the large rookery of Pallas Murres, Pacific Kittiwakes, and Horned Puffins

Aug 26 Kotzebue, Kotzebue Id. Scarce.

Aug 27 Elephant Pt. & Puffin Rock,
Kotzebue Id. Scarce at Elephant
Pt. & quite common on Puffin Rock
where many undoubtedly nest;
because they were not as wary
as usual.

Aug 29 Nome - A large flock hung
around the boat all day. There
seems to be a greater percentage of
immatures than before.

GLAUCOUS WINGED GULL ^① Larus glaucescens

Gilmore
1931

May 8, 1931 - Coast of Washington + Juan de Fuca Strait - quite positively identified by sight -

May 14, 1931 These Gulls are quite common on the Puget Sound + the inland passage east of Vancouver Is. Their numbers become more ~~numerous~~ numerous in the afternoon.

May 15, 1931 - Cruising thru Lemow Narrows this gull was a constant companion of the boat.

May 16 - Queen Charlotte Strait & Inlayson passage - numbers still here.

May 20 Yakutat Bay - + south - still present in almost equal nos. with Herring Gull

May 21. Gulf of Alaska - Kenai & Marmot Bay - scarce in morning, heavy gale + far from shore - dozen or so followed the ship thru Marmot Bay in evening; still heavy wind.

Glaucous Winged Gull - Larus glaucescens
 (2)

Gilmore
 1931

On Triplett Rocks & Whale Is. There seemed to be many nesting tho we could make out no details from the deck.
May 22 Shelikof Strait - quite a large flock within us now - hang on motionless wings on starboard side (windward side) in the heavy wind, 50 m.p.h. Their flight is essentially side-wise rather than forward. It is the longest bunch so far - once in a while ~~it~~ some bird utters a ~~long~~ hoarse harsh note - hungry? They vie with the shearwaters now for the scraps but are much more aggressive than the latter. The wind became so strong as night fell that the gulls left.

May 31 Unalaska Unalaska Is., Alaska
 Very common, especially in harbor. Many immatures; outnumber adults 4:1. Sit in flocks on beach in front of town. Scavenges plenty. Saw no breeding colonies.

Sept. 18 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians
 As far as I can ascertain, these are the only type of gull around here.

Galbreath
1931

GLAUCOUS WINGED GULL (3)

The immatures in a uniform dark gray or sooty plumage still outnumber the adults. ~~As~~ they may be encountered anywhere in the harbor, scavenging for food, they hang out in large numbers in the lagoon (lake) just south of town, and on the rocky beach just west of Summer's Bay. In the lagoon, the adults seem to congregate in a large flock and sit out in the middle.

Sept. 22 Unalaska The stomachs of 2083-84 contained shell fragments and a soft leathery mollusc or two. The shell fragments seem to link the gulls with the small piles of shells which I have found on the ~~rocks~~ roosting rocks along the beach. Generally they have the appearance of being regurgitated but at times excreted. It is merely a mass of clam shell fragments an eighth or a quarter of an inch across. Perhaps it is an aid in ~~digest~~ the comminution of food ~~as~~ they have no gizzards.

Muscle shells!

Kilmore GLAUCOUS WINGED GULL (4)
 1931 Oct. 11 Akutan Akutan Is. N. Aleutian Is.

These gulls are everywhere in goodly numbers. During my trip from Unalaksa to English & Ugangic Bays and back I saw easily several hundreds. They are found along the shores, rocky headlands and out in the open rough wind swept passes.

Here at Akutan, they congregate in large flocks around the whaling station and head of the bay. Perhaps 200 or so are here.

Oct. 31, Unalaksa, E. Aleutian Is. These gulls are probably permanent residents and have now assumed their winter plumage of dusky head & neck and dark gray wing tips.

Nov. 4. Zaikof Bay, Montague Is., Alaska
 Here at anchorage, on the outer edge of Prince William Sound these gulls are still with the ship, lying close by in the wind & rain. They close the leeward side of the ship and sit huddled on the water with heads drawn in & back close to the body.

Simone
1931

① HERRING GULL - *Larus argentatus*
smithsonianus

May 14, 1931 Puget Sound + passage
East of Vancouver. Great numbers
of these gulls are found in these
waters. Numbers increased in the
afternoon as we cruised northward.

May 15 1931 thru Seymour Narrows - ^{to north}
still with us, with other gulls.

May 16 Inu Charlotte Straits, - Finlayson
Channel. - probably present.

May 20 Still present up in Gulf of
Alaska. Several around boat -
many more in north part of Inland
passage. Do not appear to have any
~~red~~ red in eyes - at times on yards
they utter a hen-like cluck! Curiosity
or attracting attention?

May 24 Ufoqnak Is
Marmot Bay - still present -
may nest on Triple Is. + Whale Is.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is.
Aleutian Islands. None seen for
certainty during 1 week's stay here.

Silmon HERRING GULL (2)
1931

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska none seen

June 16 Nome, Alaska " "

June 21 - July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence
Is., Bering Sea, Alaska - Rather

scarce here - tho apparently more
common than Glaucous Gull
especially over the tundra where
none of the latter have been seen.
The Herring Gulls are occasionally
seen flying over land, generally near
water & alone, uttering their hoarse
crys when they see a person.

Several of the gulls taken Nos. 1679 &
1746 (?) had red eyelids so might have
been Calif. Gulls.

Aug 29 Nome Several gulls of this
type were in the large flock of
Glaucous Gulls. Secured spec. nos.
2019 & 2020.

Nov. 4 Zaikof Bay, Montague Is., Alaska
Today I saw several of these gulls in
the large group of Glaucous Winged
Gulls. This is their first reappearance
about the ship.

Salmon
1931

HERRING GULL (3)

Nov. 11 - Seattle, Washington. From
Prince William Sound to Seattle
the numbers of ~~Lesser~~ Herring Gulls
increased tremendously, both in
absolute numbers and in proportion
to the fast disappearing Glaucous
Winged Gulls.

Here in Seattle's Harbor the Herring
Gulls are most numerous, with Glaucous
Winged Gulls second and an occasional
Western Gull present.

CALIF. GULL - *Larus californicus*

Gibson

1931

May 8, 1931 - off coast of Washington & Juan de Fuca - first noted with any degree of certainty (still not absolute).

May 14, 1931 - Puget Sound & passage east of Vancouver Is. Very probably present among the flocks of gulls that were positively identified.

May 15, 1931 Seymour Narrows & north
the gulls have become more numerous in the flock that hangs around the ship. They are in all series of plumages as are the rest of the gulls.

May 16, 1931 Queen Charlotte St. - & Finlayson Channel. - quite a few still following the boat.

Western Gull Larus occidentalis

Gilmore

1931

May 5, 1931 - Many western Gulls with us all day - greater percentage of adults than young. Hung around quite close to the ship & even rode on the yard arms.

May 6, 1931 - 17th mi. - 350 mi. N. of J. F. Bay - still with us - seem to be the only kind.

May 7, 1931 still present - numbers have increased.

May 8 1931 up off coast of Washington. still here - tho in decreased numbers.

Nov. 14 Off S.W. coast of Washington. Western Gulls have become common again. Their dark backs & black wing tips are seen often in the flock of gulls following the ship.

Gilmore
1931

RING BILLED GULL Larus delawarensis

May 15, 1931 Seymour Narrows -
Today I almost positively identified
this species from a few adult
individuals that flew close enough
to make out the black spot on
the upper bill & the red & black
lower tip. They were in company with
the other ship's gulls

May 16 Queen Charlotte St. - Fairwayson Channel.
several followed the boat.

Gilmore
1931

SHORT BILLED GULL - *Larus canus*

May 15 - Seymour Narrows *brachyrhynchus*

I almost definitely identified this species from an individual in the flock of ship's gulls. It showed the clear yellow bill + black wing tips specked with white of an adult plumage.

May 16 Queen Charlotte St. - Finlayson Channel
Two followed in wake of Boat.

June 8 St. Michael Alaska
Fairly common in Marshes.

Oct. 20. Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Spec. 2277-78 have been tentatively termed Short Billed Gulls tho the identification is by no means certain. Small dark colored gulls of this type are to be seen around here in small numbers only. but are easily distinguished by their small size and correspondingly quicker movements from the larger Blancus Winged Gulls.

Gilmore
1931

BONAPARTE GULL Larus philadelphia (1)

May 15, 1931 Sennour Narrows -

Today at the east end of the narrows I saw several large flocks of these pretty tern-like gulls. One flock was flying east & south along the east shore & seemed to be traveling steadily without stopping to forage. The other flocks were encountered in the narrows as they were resting on the surface. The boat caused them to make flight but there seemed to be no foraging. All were apparently in flocks & evidently migrating!!

May 16 - Queen Charlotte St. - Foxleyson Chan.
Several flocks - migrating north?

Sept. 25. Unalaska, Unalaska, Is. Aleutians
Spec. no. 2197 was taken from a large flock of 500 ± Pacific Kittiwakes with whom they associate. All appear to be immatures & are not very common. They look too large to me for Bonaparte Gulls but I don't know what else they can be.

Gilmore BONAPARTE GULL (2)

1931

Oct. 2 Between Unalaska & English Bay. During this two hour cruise I saw several dozen ^{immature} Bonaparte Gulls all told. They were scattered among the more numerous Kittiwakes but their black upper wing coverts & ~~the~~ black tipped tails ~~of the immatures~~ were easy to pick out. No adults were to be seen.

Oct. 7. Katan Pass, W. Aleutian Is.

I saw them occasionally thru out the 6 hour trip across the rough windy pass. They were straggling individuals and not flocks. Most of them were immatures and only one or two had any real ^{extent of} black feathering on the head.

Probably all immatures.

Gilmore
1931

Sabine Gull ①

June 8 St. Michael Alaska

Very common on ponds back of town - quite fearless of approach.

July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea
Alaska. Saw several during whole

stay on island. Near Camp Collier I noticed a pair flying with the Kittiwakes & later ~~on~~ the beach at Sevoonga a pair (I collected one) were seen foraging.

Saw a single individual (possibly immature) from the ship at Kotzebue. July 24.

Point Hope Arctic Ocean Alaska

Aug 2, saw a single individual on a small lagoon at reindeer camp. Its invasion was vigorously disputed by a couple of Arctic Terns who failed in the defense of their territory for the gull finally lit among the grass & water but the edge of the tundra.

Aug 7. On small lagoon near beach I saw about 100 of these birds. They were sitting everywhere on the water & feeding on the leeward side where

Gilman
1931 SABINE GULL (2)

the waves washed up a white foam on the shallow shore. Most have the black heads but there ~~are~~^{were} some immatures in the bunch.

August 22 Saw a few along the beach the other day but they are getting scarce & don't seem to be inhabiting the lagoons in large numbers any more, at least the particular small lagoon near the deacon's boat house.

Aug 29. Nome A lone bird was with the flock of Glaucous Gulls around the ship. It seemed very fearless, scarcely moving out of the way of the launches.

Nov. 6. Cross Sound, Alaska (S.E.)

As we enter the Inside Passage tonight we leave the open gulf & heavy seas behind, and perhaps also the small dainty Sabine Gull now minus the black head. Tho a dusky patch still clings to the nape of the neck. Perhaps a half dozen in all have been seen since we left Unalaska.

Gilmore SABINE GULL (3)
1931

but they ~~never~~ never formed a part of the garbage scavenging flock of Glauous Winged Gulls that always stayed with the ship.

From notes of Commander E. V. Jones, Captain of Coast Guard Cutter, "Northland"
Oct. 14-15, 1931 "Cape Prince of Wales to King Island to Port Clarence - most numerous of the gulls - winter plumage, seem to be more common west (?) of Sledge Island". (probably latter clause refers to migrational path.)

Gilmore
1931

PACIFIC KITTAWAKE O. Lissa tridactyla
pollicaris!

May 19 Jay Strait - Today the Kittawakes put in their appearance for the first time. Flock of 7-8 seen 6:00 A.M. - thru out the day many more seen. Solid black wing tips most distinguishing mark.

May 21 Marmot Bay - Several dozen in sight off & on. Stayed away from the boat - very graceful flight in the strong wind.

May 31 Unalaska Bay, Unalaska Is., Alaska
None seen, either around beach or in open channel.

June 3 - off Nimrod Is., Alaska - several flocks seen.

June 8 St. Michael Alaska
Commonest bird - seen in harbor only.

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Id., Alaska
Commonest bird.

June 17, Nome, Alaska
Very common - flock around ship for garbage.

June 21 - July 12, Seward, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Very common.

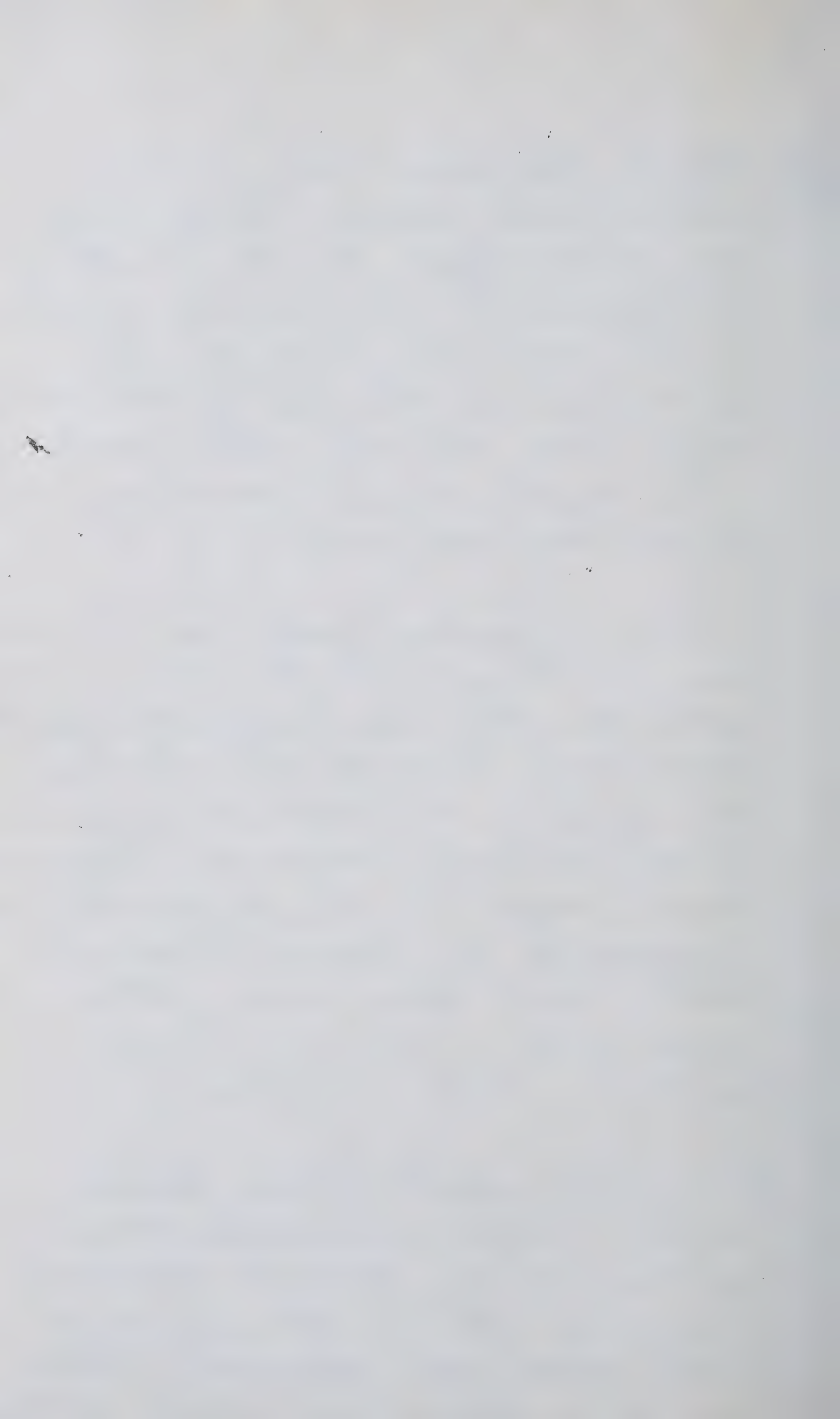
Silmore
1931

PACIFIC KITTIWAKE (2)

Breeder on the island. Nearly every line of sea cliffs has its quota of Kittiwake nests. From a boat in the water the forms of the Kittiwakes dot the face of the rock cliffs like so many white spots. They may be seen at almost any time, foraging along the shore.

These ubiquitous gulls are to be seen at every part of coast & even out to sea. They are undoubtedly the commonest bird of the Bering Sea region - at least commonest, if not the most numerous. They are much subject to the depredations & annoyances of Jaegers (Pomarine). ~~but~~ ^{and} I have never seen them fight back. Noted at Nome, Golovin, Teller, & Kotzebue.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska
Aug 2. Pacific Kittiwakes were encountered in moderate numbers all along the 30 mile length of the sand spit peninsula. Natives say they breed on the cliffs at Cape.



Gilmore
1931

PACIFIC KITTIWAKE. (3)

Thompson.

August 22 Noted occasionally every day. I have been along the beach & lagoons. Today when I was back on the peninsula half way to the hills I noted a large flock flying straight south over lagoon & tundra. They ~~are~~ are not a noisy bird and I cannot recall hearing them make any kind of a sound.

Aug. 29 Nome, Alaska.

Several around the boat today. Not nearly as abundant as in June.

Sept. 24 Unalaska, Unalaska Is. Aleutian Is.

Today I saw a few in the harbor while crossing over the narrow channels to Expedition Is. They do not frequent the beach in front of town nor along the dock but prefer to hang out in the outer reaches of the harbor.

Sept. 25 Unalaska. Today I saw at least a thousand or two of these birds in the N.W. part of the bay. The first flock of

Salmore 1931 PACIFIC KITTIWAKE (A)

500 or so was on the rough surface of the bay just off Broad Bay. It rose at quite a distance (300-400 yds) & scattered about in the air. A few Bonaparte Gulls were in the flock. It was pretty to watch the large flock of white birds rise up off the surface in a sparkling mass and disintegrate into its individual parts like so many scattering motes of dust in a beam of light.

The other flock was resting on the part of Eider Point reef that was exposed above the water. Their behavior was much like that of the first.

Oct. 2 Between Unalaska and English Bay. During the two hour cruise I saw hundreds of these birds, many of them immatures showing the black blotches on the head and neck. The birds were well scattered.

Oct. 7 Akutan Pass and Akau Straits, W. Aleutian Is. Kittiwakes were common all over the rough wind swept pass.

Gilmore
1931

PACIFIC KITTIWAKE (5)

In small flocks they foraged over the heaving waters. In the dark of evening as we were coming down the ~~strait~~ Akun Straits in the fore front of a mean Nor'wester, we ran into several flocks of 50-100 individuals on the water about a quarter of a mile off shore. The flocks were compact & they moved as a unit.

Oct. 11 Akutan, Akutan Is., N. Aleutian Is.

Kittiwakes are not common in the bay, at least the inner end, unless there is a heavy wind blowing outside. This evening as a Nor'west gale swept down on the bay, I saw a dozen or so flying 100-200 yds. high around the whaling station at the head of the harbor.

Certainly, they seem to prefer the rough passes to the protected coves and bays.

Silliman
1931

ARCTIC TERN ①

June 3 Cape Etolin, Nunavut Is., Alaska

Many of these birds seen along shore & over fresh water lakes nearby. They flew singly, pairs or in groups up to four. Often a single perched on some promontory on sea shore. At times quite inquisitive, flying near to inspect the intruder. When one is shot others gather near to hover over the wounded bird. They have a harsh grating cry & at other times a slow tsip tsip - tsip!

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

Very common - especially on marshes. Quite fearless & very inquisitive especially when one is shot, others quickly gather near and may be shot with ease.

June 21 - July 12, Sivovaga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea. - Common - may

be seen at odd places along the coast. Found one breeding colony of some 50 birds. It was on a small sand bar in Iviktook

Gilmore
1931

ARCTIC TERN (2)

Lagoon & on this same sand area 75 x 20 yds, nested Pacific Eider & Emperor Goose. The nests of the terns were mere depressions in the sand & the eggs, 2 in number & dark. The birds arose in a cloud & circled 50-75 yds over my head, screaming in raucous cries as long as I poked around the nests.

Fairly common along the Alaskan Coast from Nome to Point Hope, which is the extent of the coast line I have covered in the last couple of weeks July 18-29.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2. While traveling the length of the Pt. Hope peninsula I saw many of these terns, both about the brackish water lagoons & over the surf along the beach. Several times I was "attacked" by these birds as I was walking along the narrow sand spit. Once, a lone bird dashed at my head & again from a height of 50 or so

Handwritten text at the bottom right corner, possibly a signature or date, including the word "Handwritten" and "1911".

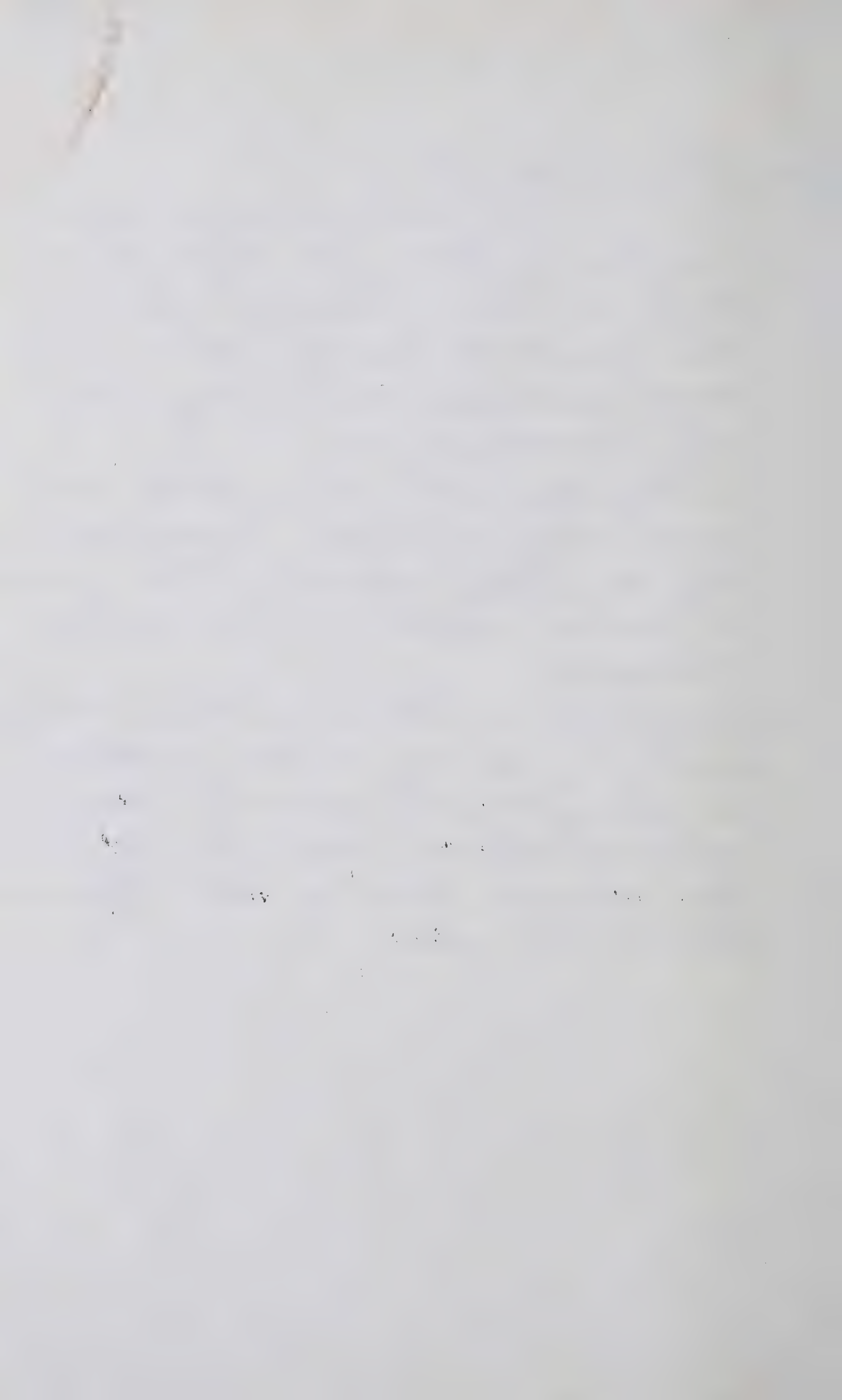
Gilmore
1931

ARCTIC TERN (3)

Just & on the other occasion several birds from a flock of a half dozen "struck" at me repeatedly. Perhaps there were nests nearby, tho a hasty search disclosed none. Many times they scolded at me.

They use their long forked tail a great deal in flight & except when they are flying rapidly ^{ahead}, it is expanded to various widths & kept moving continually.

August 22 Still here, tho in reduced numbers. One day I saw quite a few flying ^{low} over the gravelly land, apparently hunting some sort of food. Still common back on the lagoons towards the hills.



Gilmore ALEUTIAN TERN

1931

July 5 Nome, Alaska On this day Capt. Jones & Lieut. Comm. Bradbury saw 4 of these birds close to the boat as it was anchored off Nome. They were on the lookout for terns with black bills & white foreheads & the identification was made thru exceptionally fine glasses. They are reliable observers and their sight record should stand.

Aug. 24, Point Hope Alaska

While boarding the boat today a tern flew close by and the white forehead was unmistakable. I did not notice the color of the bill.

CALIF. MURRE Uria aalgaæ californica

Elmore
1931

May 7, 1931 Seen in scattered flocks off the coast of Oregon - probably seen yesterday tho not positively identified.

May 8, 1931 ~ off coast of Washington & Juan de Fuca Straits - much more numerous. at least 200 seen "en toto". The flocks in the quiet waters of the straits often gathered on the surface in a straight single file line & swam in corresponding alignment. On pieces of drift wood there were often 2-5 of these birds perched.

Often we encountered a Murre that could not rise from the surface and after much hasty scrambling, dove! These birds were seen in water from 40 - 70 fathoms in depth & so could hardly have been feeding! Perhaps they had oil on their plumages.

May 14, 1931 ~~By~~ Passage east of Vancouver Is - quite a few (dozen $\pm$) flocks of from 8-12 birds were seen this afternoon.



Gilmore
1931

CALIF. MURRE ② Uria aalga californica
They sometimes they dove & sometimes
they took wing and often the boat
approached to within 75 yds before
they took action. Several
immatures were seen in the
flocks.

May 15 - Seymour Narrows ^{North.} many seen
today in flocks from 2 - 12 ±
a larger percentage of immatures noted.

May 18 Common thru out the day in
flocks from 2 - 18 ±. In Snow
Passage between Clarence & Sumner
straits I observed a single alight
in a flock of 8 in the following
manner: Came up from behind
& on left side, circled around
& approached from the front. It
lit ^{in rear} with usual wing flapping &
foot spreading ~~mouth~~ method but
as soon as it touched the water
it dove head foremost under the
surface & did not reappear for
about 5 secs. after which it was
an integral member of the flock.
Was approach from front a form

Calif Murre ③Gilmore
1931

of introduction? Was the submergence after alighting a natural ~~one~~ proceeding ~~when~~ or only when joining with a flock, or merely a whim of the moment? Generally the mures took ~~of~~ safety by flight or diving (half & half) at distances of 100-200 yds but occasionally allowed an approach of 30-50 yds.

May 19 - these birds were common in Icy Strait & Cross Sound. Now in Gulf of Alaska, not seen.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska
Saw none here.

June 3 Univak Is., Alaska
Found in immense flocks off the west end of the island.

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska
Quite common in bay.

Gilmore
1931

Pallas Murre ①

June 16 Nome, Alaska

One specimen (1613) shot from ship as it swam near. Seemed to be a sick as it was alone and in poor condition.

June 21-July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska - Common nesting bird. Found nesting on all the sea cliffs in considerable numbers. All seem to be Pallas tho I have my suspicion there are some Calif Murres in the bunch. Around the rookeries they may be seen flying around in small groups or singly or in pairs, but away from the nests the flocks are generally larger. Perhaps these larger flocks are feeding flocks.

Point Hope Arctic Ocean, Alaska, Igarka Aug. These birds are exceedingly numerous here & natives say they breed in great numbers on the cliffs of Cape Lisburne & Thompson. They flying along the spit in all directions, generally several hundred

Silmore
1931

PALLAS MURRE (2)

yards off shore, but never have I seen them cut across the spit over the tundra, even at the neck of the spit. If the flocks are working between Lisburne & Thompson, they seem to prefer to fly the 30 miles length on each side of the peninsula. "Crow bill duck" is the colloquial name here.

Aug 4. Was out on the north beach & point this aft. in cold fog & south wind. Hundreds of these murre were flying low & close to the beach, westward along the north shore, & a few westward along the south shore. The main V shaped flocks from the east on the north shore swing around the point & headed south over the open ocean. The When a flock from the east on the south shore met a flock from the east on the north shore the former swung into the latter & the combined flock headed south. Migrating southward?

Aug 7 Very numerous on the north shore and all were flying west. Often

Gilmore
1931

PALLAS MURRE (3)

a flock would fly ~~to~~ westward ~~to~~ up the north lagoon, parallel to the beach & then swing over the sand spit when the lagoon ended.

August 22 Still here in ~~fair~~ considerable numbers. Generally seen flying well off shore in long lines or winging their way over the point well out of gunshot. They are not found ~~and~~ very far from the sea shore, as for instance back on the lagoons. On sunny days when the observer is standing between the sun and the birds, they present a beautiful sight as they fly rapidly by the shore, for the black tails to show up & the white bellies glisten with a dazzling brightness.

Aug. 25 Cape Thompson, Alaska.

The cutter anchored for two hours off Cape Thompson and as a member of the shore party I had a good opportunity to observe the crowded nesting sites on the cliffs. There were thousands of these birds on the slanting ledges along the face of

Gilmore
1931

PALLAS' MURRE. (4)

the precipitous cliffs, and as hundreds flew out in a downward slanting flight, swift and sure, there seemed to be no diminution in the numbers still sitting on the rocks. The face of the cliff, as one looked upwards for 500-700 ft. from the base, was the scene of continual motion, birds taking off in jumps and others ~~all~~ alighting. The latter stopped the force of their flight by banging ~~of~~ ~~against~~ their breasts against the rock wall. In the low roaring undertone of noise I could not distinguish any distinctive sounds from the ~~latter~~ murre.

Young birds were not very numerous but several were found at the base of the cliffs where they had evidently fallen from above.

The specimens taken were not very fat & the pickings seem to have been quite poor.

The murre were nesting alongside of a few Horned Puffins and Pacific Kittiwakes. Glaucous Gulls, which probably feed on the eggs & young

Gilmore 1931 PALLAS MURRE. (3)

of the former species, were not common. The flight of the murre is strong and swift, making them quite hard to kill in flight.

In diving they go under water with a forward lunge that brings their feet out of the water.

The natives have used to gather the eggs in great quantities in years gone by, but lately have ceased to do so.

The murre is generally quite gregarious in flight, and tho the flocks are easily broken up by the sudden encounter of an obstacle, such as a boat in the line of flight, the tendency is to get back in line as soon as possible.

Aug. 26 Puffin Rock Kotzebue Id. Alaska

Quite a segregated colony of murre occupied a section of the steep rocky cliff on this ^{small} rocky island. Perhaps there were several hundred birds in all.

Sept. 25 Unalakpa, Unalaska Is., N. Aleutians

Gilmore
1931

PALLAS MURRE ⑥

There are not many Murres in the bay and today I saw only 10-12. in ~~generally~~ the outer harbor. About half seemed to be immatures.

Oct. 7 Akutan Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

Very few seen while crossing the pass and these were doubtfully identified as Pallas Murres.

From notes of Commander E. W. Jones -
captain of Coast Guard Cutter "Thetis".
Oct. 15, 1931 - Many seen at King
Island.

Gulmore
1931 PIGEON GUILLEMOT Cepphus columba

May 15 - Seymour Narrows

One flock of a dozen + several pairs of this bird were doubtfully identified today. The duck like posture in the water + flight with flashing white secondaries + were conspicuous characteristics.

May 18 See log. Saw only about a dozen today. Mostly in Clarence Strait.

May 19 - Jay Strait. dozen or so.

May 21 Marmot Bay - few pairs present.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Common in bays + along shores of Unalaska Bay. Generally seen in pairs. When frightened away they often circle back near shore again + again before alighting some where else.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.

In the tiny bay on the east side next to Glory of Russia Cape I saw about a dozen young birds but no adults. The young had a very white fluffy appearance as they



Gilmore PIDGEEON GUILLEMPOT. (2)
1931

sat on the water, and tho they as yet could not fly, they were able to paddle well over the surface, raising their bodies slightly on their rapidly beating wings. Diving was their usual means of escape. They were feeding about 200 yds off shore.

Sept. 25 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska.

Today I saw a lot of dozen or so young birds in the NW. part of the bay. They invariably sought escape by diving. No adult birds were seen.

A few immatures seen at English Bay on Oct. 2, and in Akutan Bay on Oct. 11.

Oct. 24. Akim Straits, E. Aleutian Is.

During the day's hunt in Akutan Harb., and Akim Straits I saw only a dozen or so of these ~~various~~ birds various colored in black & white & subdued tones. Generally they were alone. No adults seen at all. Local name - "Sea Pidgeon"

Gilmore
1931

Mandt's Guillemot

July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska. Mr. Geist states
that birds of the year remain here
during winter, congregating in the
open leads in considerable numbers,
while the old birds go south.

From notes of Commander E. W. Jones -
captain of Coast Guard Cutter "Northland".
Sept. 20, 1931 "Many young near Sevoonga,
(St. Lawrence Is.) - very close to shore
- in varying stages of plumage succession."

The Mandt's Guillemot is very common
around Sevoonga. They nest in
appreciable numbers on the sea
cliffs in the vicinity and may
always be seen feeding along shore
in water from 2-5 fathoms in
depth. In general, they have
paired up the occasionally larger
flocks may be seen.

Gilmore
1931

MARbled MURRELET Brachyramphus
May 15 - ~~Seymour~~ ⁹ marmoratus

Seymour Narrows - Several pairs of small dark birds that very closely resembled this species were seen! Sometimes they dove & sometimes they took flight.

May 18 - See log for route! - present today at odd times in ^{singles,} pairs or triplets. Summer plumage. Flew or dove with remarkable rapidity.

May 19 - Icy Strait - many present flying & swimming. Sometimes dove, sometimes flew when boat came within 75-100 yds. Generally in pairs.

May 31 Unalaska Bay, Unalaska Is., Alaska
Saw only a few - sailors brought in a mutilated specimen, looked like ~~Kittlitz~~ Kittlitz's Murrelet

TUFTED PUFFIN ① Lunda cirrhata

Palmer
1931

May 8, 1931 off coast of Wash. South of Cape Flattery. Today first the first time these birds were in evidence, and were seen flying in groups of from one to fifteen.

May 19 Icy Strait this morning as we steamed up & out of the northern part of the inland passage many of these birds were present in flocks from 2-8. Boat often got as close as 50 yds. Flight like ducks. Head plumes visible! As many as 200 ± seen altogether.

May 21 - Marmot Bay a few seen today, singles & pairs. Generally they were flying directly ~~down~~ on quartering down wind - in the 50 m.p.h. wind they traveled at terrific speed but never soared.

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska Quite common, were found nesting on the ~~rocks~~ cliffs around Sevoonga & Gambell

Silmore
1931

TUFTED PUFFIN (2)

& were mingled with the Horned Puffins which seemed more abundant. The Tufted Puffins seem very pugnacious & one fight I witnessed from a whale boat did not even cease when two shots were fired into the group at long range. The capt. of the boat did not wish to spend time with them so I could but watch them from my seat in the bow. The two birds almost stood on the water, pecking & biting viciously at each other, one on the other now & then sinking lower in the water but soon regaining its position.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska

July 28. Made doubtful sight identification on two birds flying by.

Aug 26. Puffin Pt., Kotzebue Sd., Alaska

Here a hundred or so birds nested or resided and they flew indiscriminately with the Horned Puffins, who outnumbered them about 10-1. Actions were the same.

Gilmore
1931

TUFTED PUFFIN (3)

Oct. 7. Akutan Pass, N. Aleutian Is.

I saw one bird of this species in
the eastern side of the pass.

Gilmore
1931

HORNED PUFFIN Fratercula corniculata
May 31 Unalaska Bay, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Saw these birds today, off seaward end of Arnaknak Is., for first time. About 50 in all. from 4 - dozen in bunch. Bill & white underparts conspicuous. Rapid flight & torpedo shape distinctive.

July 12, Savoonga, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska. On June 28 ~~was~~ between Savoonga & Camp Collier the following notes were taken. (Observation from whaleboat) "Apparently these birds copulate in the water for the antics of several pairs gave a strong suggestion. One of the pair was almost submerged while the other was directly on top and maintained his position & balance by beating his wings. They often remained in these positions for a minute or more. In general, these birds are quite common here, their white underparts being the mark to distinguish them from their less numerous dark bodied cousins, the Tufted.

Gilmore
1931

HORNED PUFFIN (2)
~~Horned Puffin~~

Aug 24 Cape Thompson, Alaska

Perhaps a thousand or more of these birds all told, resided on the cliffs alongside of the Pallas Murres. They gave a comical appearance as they solemnly sat on the rock ledges and gazed about with twistings and turnings of their massively beaked heads. In taking off from their perch on the rocky ledges, they gave a deep downward lunge before catching themselves on out-stretched wings.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is.; Bering Sea.

Quite a number nested on the cliffs of Glory of Russia Cape, along with the Fulmars. At the time I was there, afternoon, they seemed to prefer the nesting ledges to the water.

Sept. 6 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

Saw 40-50 in Captain's Harbor today - the flocks were small - numbering a dozen birds or so.

Silmore
1931

PAROQUET AUKLET

June 28 Camp Collier, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska

The crop of No 1680 held numerous small crustaceans (shrimp-like organisms)

June 28 - July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence
Is. Bering Sea, Alaska. Not very

common. We occasionally met with while out in the the native whale boats (that is we in the boat.) They seem to be solitary, rarely congregating into flocks. I found none on the rookeries of other auklets.

Gilmore
1931

CRESTED AUKLET ①

June 21 - July 12, Savoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska

Saw a great many of these birds during my stay but the great majority were noticed flying over the water. I found no rookeries where they nested in appreciable numbers, tho a very few did nest ~~among~~ ^{with} the Least Auklets.

When ^{we were out} in the whale boats they were much in evidence and flocks of 50 - 100 + more were common - generally on the wing. Their red bill & general dark color are distinctive ~~for the~~. The quail-like crest cannot be noticed until one is within 25 yds or so.

The natives kill great numbers, using the flesh for meat the crown for decorations on rain coats, & the rest of the skin for ~~parkas~~ cold weather parkas.

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska.

July 29 A bird perched somewhere on the boat was caught by a sailor & brought to me. After being

Gilmore
1931

CRESTED AUKLET (2)

handled gently it was quite content to sit on ones shoulder if within a room. When I left the boat, it was contentedly paddling around in a sink full of water in the sick bay.

Oct. 2 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska These birds evidently winter in the western Aleutian Is. and are subject to periodic plagues (at least occasional conditions that decimate the population).

The following is from Capt. Henry Swanson: Four years ago, (1927) in the winter, the shores of the islands to the west of here were covered on the Bering Sea side by countless thousands of dead Crested Auklets. The windrows of dead birds were largest after a North storm but the number of bodies was always high at any time during that winter.

This is the only time he has ever seen such a phenomena and as he described the birds particularly, at by the plume on the head, there seems

Gilmore
1931

CRESTED AUKLETS (3)

to be little doubt that they were
Crested Auklets. Just what caused
this sudden extermination of birds
is uncertain but it seems likely
that it was not due to bad weather.
He also states that Crested Auklets
are rarely seen as far east as
Unalaska Is.

Gilmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET ①

June 21 - July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska

On the landing party at Gambell on July 27 I saw many flocks flying close to the water & shore - ice all around. The evenings of the 22 + 23 I sat on schoolhouse steps at Sevoonga & watched myriads of these & probably Crested Auklets flying eastward along the coast line. The flocks dotted the sky & they came in bunches, lines, wavering strings & combinations of all three. No rhyme or reason to their alt alignment in flight. The weather was clear & wind calm & sea calm & the sight of these thousands of tiny sea birds flying ^{over} ~~across~~ the ocean in front of a brilliant red & rose colored midnite sunset was wonderful to behold. At this time the rock cliffs & rock piles ^{near here} ~~immediately~~ behind showed no signs of rookery life. However in a week the rocks were alive

Gilmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET (2)

with them, the birds being especially active in the late evening about 10-12 P.M. Flocks of birds, pairs, & singles, flew in every direction a few yards over the rocks, and every few feet or so ~~they~~ one could be seen sitting on the top of a rock. At the same time from the rocks, issuing from thousands of unseen throats came an almost indescribable hodgepodge of noises that made the place sound like a hive of angry bees if one were at an appreciable enough distance to get the blended effect of the sounds. Up close, however, one could hear noises ranging from deep guttural croaks to shrill trills & crescendos. Occasionally a bird would scramble up over the rocks from the deep recesses beneath & take wing to join the throng in the air. The more I shot & moved about the louder the noise & the more the ~~volume~~ number of flying birds became. It was a

Gilmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET (3)

wonderful sight, not to be forgotten for a long time.

In the morning hundreds of the birds may be seen perched on the remaining snow banks that hang on the crest of the cliffs.

For the last week or so the numbers have not been so much in evidence as before. They are still here but probably spending more time feeding & tending to the nest. When out in the whale boats they are easily approachable as they sit or feed on the surface. The flocks range from 2-15. The young fellows in the boat take along several score of small beach pebbles 2-3" in diam. & throw at the birds as we run them down with the boat. They are very expert at this ^{rock} throwing art & score a hit every once in a while. The auklets rise rather gradually from the surface & use their feet to paddle themselves as they start.

During rough windy weather

Salmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET. (4)

they take refuge in the rookeries for none are to be seen in the water. However, as soon as it gets ~~rough~~ smooth & calm out they come again and many flocks may be seen.

The color of the iris is white.

I saw no natives netting any, tho I am told they do. St Geist states that the entrails of the birds are allowed to stand for a while in seal oil or blubber & then eaten.

Noted occasionally along the coast from Teller to Point Hope

Sept. 1. St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.
On the moss grown boulders at the flanks of the high precipitous cliff of Gloyof Russia Cape, I saw as a few of these feathered "bees" as I climbed about on that sunny afternoon. Evidently they nested among these rocks for it is the type of habitat they seem to like when not on the water. Foxes are

Gilmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET (5)

common among the same boulders and undoubtedly prey heavily on this bird. A few scattered flocks of 2-6 were seen as we cruised southward along the east side of the island.

Sept. 21. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is.

Mr. Patterson, of Unalga Is., states that at times (in winter) he ~~see~~ has seen myriads of small birds in the "pass" & they were "not much larger than my fist". These seem to answer the description of Least Auklets. He also said they were a general dark color with a little gray underneath. As far as logic goes, the Aleutian Is. ought to be the wintering grounds for these "sea quail".

Oct. 2. Between Unalaska and English Bay

During the 2 hr. cruise I saw 40-50 of these birds. They were generally alone or in pairs ^{and} well scattered. They allowed a very close approach and tried to escape at first generally by diving. After a very short time under the water

Whiskered Auklet?

Gilmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET (6)

they popped up and tried to take wing. The attempt was generally successful but only after much frantic kicking & bombing on the wave tops. The bellies were quite light colored and the white plumes on the head were easily visible.

General account of the manner in which Least Auklets are netted ~~by~~ on King Island in the northern part of the Bering Sea by the natives.

The native with a net 3'-4' in diameter on the end of a 10-'15' pole nets a few as they fly close over the brow of the sea cliffs. Then stringing the live captive birds thru the nostrils he hoists the line of struggling flopping birds between two upright poles some 10-'15' apart.

Then he takes assumes a crouched position right under & somewhat behind the birds which are now frantically endeavoring to fly away but are held by the string thru their nostrils. Their struggles attract other flocks

Gilmore
1931

LEAST AUKLET (7)

of other Least Auklets who fly low over the scene to satisfy their curiosity. As the inquisitive birds swoop low the native swings his net upward & ~~to~~ then downward and generally nets from 7-10 in the meshes. These birds he takes from the net one by one and cutting off their heads, shoves the bodies in a gummy sack.

Gilmore
1931

WHISKERED AUKLET ①

Oct. 2 Between Unalaska and English Bay (described under Least Auklet)

Oct. 4 Unalga Pass, W. Aleutian Is.

Cassini's Auklet?
On this foggy morning, as we ran down the smooth waters of the pass to Agangik Bay, we passed thru some hundred odd of these small chunky Auklets. They were scattered all over the pass in bunches of from 2-6 and often allowed a close approach before diving or taking wing, generally the former.

Spec. 2223-24-25-26 were shot from the bow of the "Kanaga Native" and retrieved with the dory.

Oct. ~~27~~ 7. Akutan Pass, E. Aleutian Is.

Only a few of these birds were seen while crossing the rough waters of the pass today.

Oct. 26+31. None seen on these two days when I crossed Akutan Pass.

Gilmore
1931

RHINOCERAS AUKLET

Oct. 4 Unalga Pass, W. Aleutian Is.

Spec. no. 2222 was shot from the bow of the "Kamaga Native" while we were cruising thru the pass in a light ~~heavy~~ fog. Only a few of these birds were to be seen on the still ^{waters}, and then they might easily be confused with immature Horned Puffins.

Oct. 24. Akutan Straits, E. Aleutian Is.

Today I saw about four-five of these large auklets. Invariably, each bird was alone and tried to escape by diving. I never saw one take wing. Generally they frequented the open passes between the rocks & islands, but occasionally were to be found close to shore in some sheltered light. They fed heavily upon ^{one} ~~the~~ pilot-fish, as their ^{esophagus} ~~belly~~ held at ~~the~~ many as 50-75 fish.

Oct. 31. Akutan Pass E. Aleutians. Today while headed east on the cutter I saw several birds. Again each was alone and escaped by diving. Attempts to take wing were unsuccessful.

Silmore 1931 ST. MICHAEL HORNED OWL

Mr. Tugler, here at the Pacific American Whaling Station of Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., relates the following: In the fall of 1929 three owls, "larger than ravens" hung around the buildings of the station for about a week. They flew close about him in the dusk of evening and uttered no sounds. He shot one but was not able to locate the body the next morning.

Perhaps they were Great Gray Owls

Elmore
1931

SNOWY OWL ①

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska.

Aug 2. Took one today about 5 miles east of village. It was sitting on a timber, 'several hundred yds away from an inhabited house + took flight when I got within 40 yds. It had 5 *Microtus* in its stomach, 4 of which were quite fresh.

Aug 6 + 7 Killed one on each of the above days. They always took flight from their perch on some tundra hummock, as I came to within 100 yds. They have a combination flight low over the ground, of leisure flapping + soaring.

August 22 Haven't seen many - occasionally one (always alone) sitting on some hummock or mass of debris. Their pellets found around their perching places resemble cylindrical masses of feces interspersed with bones. Bird bones seem to be about as numerous as ~~mouse~~ *Microtus* bones.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.

Mason (A.L.) reported seeing several in his walk across the island.



Gilmore SNOWY OWL (2)
1931

Sept. 18. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

Local people say they occur irregularly on the Aleutians in winter. I have interviewed a trapper from Kanaga Is. who states he has seen them there in winter, tho but rarely.

Gilman
1931

Short Eared Owl (1)

June 8, St. Michael, Alaska

One taken (No. 1568) near old river boats on marsh 15 miles S. of St. Michael. Said to nest in the boats but careful exploration for trinkets failed to dislodge any.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

I saw an owl by the lagoon just south of town. It flew up about 100 yds ahead of me & was soon lost to sight over some low rises but I noticed white areas on the wings. General color was light brown.

Owls are reported at in the old buildings at Dutch Harbor and are said to be very numerous on the west end of this island. They may be of this species.

Oct. 15 Akutan, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Today I flushed one right under my feet in some tall grass on a side hill some 100 yds from the beach. I had my gun in its case for it was raining and the owl flew ruscated high up in the air where I lost

Gilmore 1931 Short Eared Owl (2)
sight of it.

Oct. 18. Akutan, Akutan Is. Aleutian Is.
Today I walked thru falling snow about the flats at the head of the bay and in two closely adjacent areas on the side hill next to the flat I flushed at least a dozen and possibly 15 Short Eared Owls. They were roosting in the grass & took wing one by one and flew aimlessly about the meadow before ~~all~~ alighting together again. Spec. 2268-69-70 came from the flock.

Why should they gather together like this? Was it the snow storm, or a migrational urge or just a coincidence?

Their flight is silent and jerky, the long wings flapping at irregular intervals and giving the body a disconcerted up & down motion. Very frequently they interrupt their flight by a long circular soar, much like a Buteo Hawk.

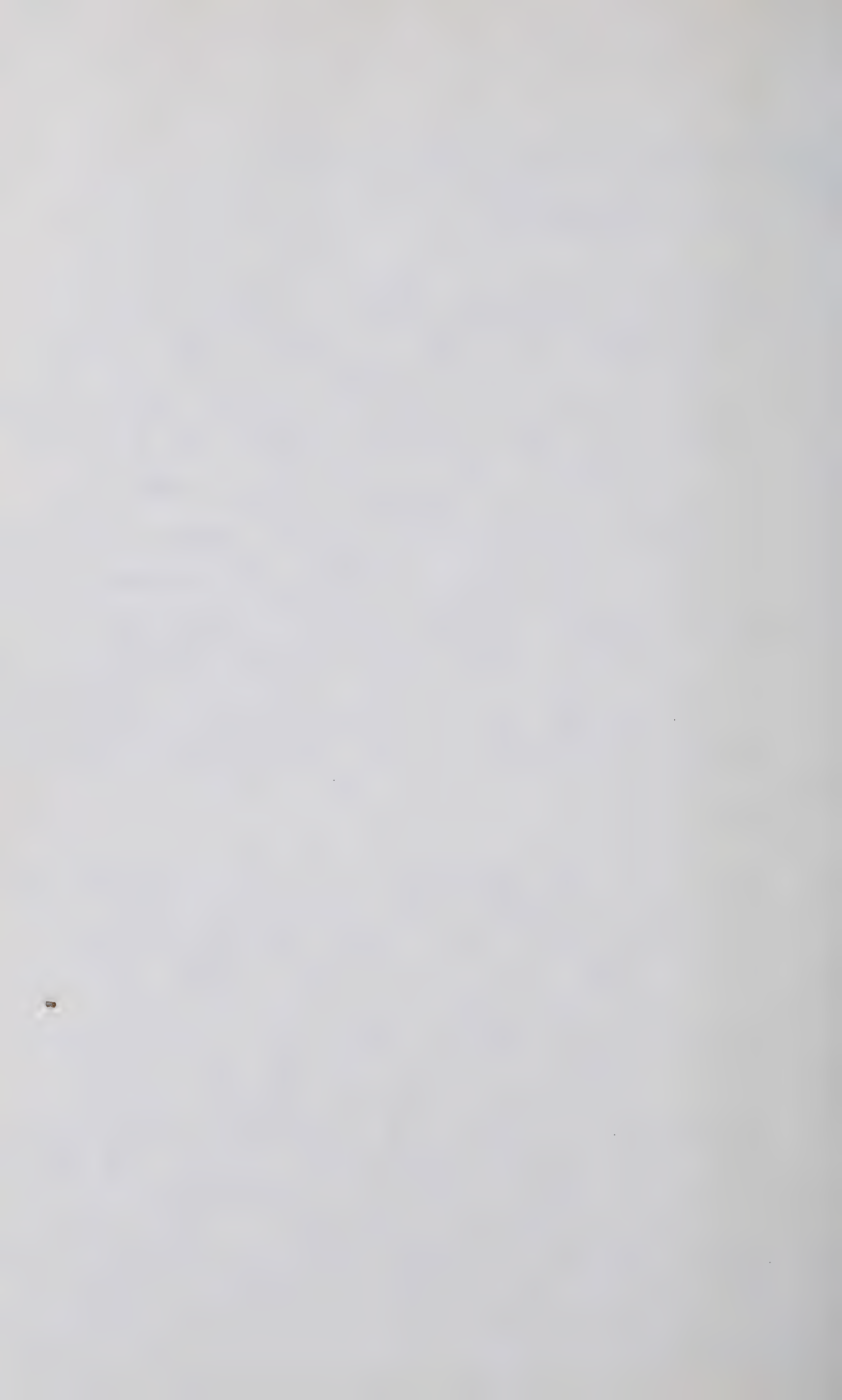
All the owls lit again within a short time but the original flock



Gilmore SHORT EARED OWL (3)
1931 was disrupted.

Oct. 20 Akutan Bay Spec. 2276
was taken in same place as the
above, and 9 others were also seen.
Mr. Kugler states that a month
ago when berry picking was on,
these owls were not seen in this
place at all. Thus it seems likely
that they have just recently
assembled. This one had remains of
a Microtus in its stomach. Undoubt-
ably, mice form its principal source
of food.

Oct. 21 Akutan Bay. Spec. 2284 was
shot as flew over the water from
some long grass at the head of the
beach. In these country with no
trees, these owls roost on the
ground & seem to prefer the side
of a hill, tho this one was at least
300 yds from the nearest hill and
was almost on the sandy beach. So
far I have not heard them utter any
sounds.



Gilmore 1931 WESTERN BELTED KINGFISHER (1)
Oct. 3 Unalakleet Capt. Swanson reports
seeing an individual at Cape Matushni
some two weeks ago and also a
pair recently around the dock at
Unalakleet. He knows the bird and has
^{positively} identified them by pictures. I have
not, as yet, seen the pair around the
dock.

Gilmore
1931

MAGPIE

Pica pica hudsonia

May 24 Solgoi Harbor, Solgoi Is., Alaska

Saw three here - very wild.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

None seen.

Oct. 3 Unalaska. Bill Shaishnikov - whose old man has been in this country for years & after whom the river in Captain's Bay was named, reports that on one occasion, several years back, he saw a Magpie at Captain's Bay. The description of long tail and black and white coloration tallied. He seemed to have ^{had} a previous knowledge of the bird.

Gilmore
1931

NORTHERN RAVEN ♂ CORVUS CORAX PRINCIPALIS

May 24 Solgor Harbor, Solgor Is., Alaska

Several seen — very wild.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Very common — may be seen from sea shore to mountains. Often in pairs, tho sometimes alone or in bunches of 10-12. Even fed on beach in front of town, tho as a general rule pretty wild. Seem to scavenge a lot. Have an evil reputation for eating spawning ducks + duck + gull eggs.

Nos. 1477, 78, 79, represent family. ♂ guarded the nest + while returning to defend it was shot by Mason. ♀ fled far over the hills at the first shot. I returned to the spot some ²⁻³ days later + saw lone ~~bird~~ raven near nest.

June 21 - July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. — not common

— I saw only one or two back by the hills. One was being strenuously attacked by Parasitic + Long Tailed Jaguers. They probably nest somewhere in the rocky cliffs. Saw



Gilmore
1931

NORTHERN RAVEN (2)

Troutman, schoolteacher at Sevoonga and reliable informant states that in winter the ravens come around the village in small groups & may easily be killed. In fact, last winter, he shot a half dozen to be rid of them.

Members of the crew reported Ravens nesting on Besboro Island. Informants were reliable. (Norton Sound.)

Point Hope, Arctic Ocean, Alaska.

Aug 2. Saw 4 ravens flying over the beach & then across the tundra about 6 miles east of the village. Made doubtful sight record in hills just north of Cape Thompson.

August 12 Spec. 1868 was alone - and hovered long enough about the mission graveyard to get shot.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.

I saw several pairs among the peetling crags at the side of Cape Glory of Russia's Cliff.

Hilmore 1931 NORTHERN RAVEN (3)

Sept. 10 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians
Exceedingly common especially about the village & harbor. They have been seen wherever I have gone so far & are generally found around the low hills & cliffs next to the beach.

Flocks of 15 or so gather about the wharf & around the adjacent side of Unaknak Is. Here they loiter all day long, flying back and forth with some raucous clamor and much dipping, darting and general "horseplay." Perhaps they are merely sporting themselves. I have seen their tracks in numerous places along the sand at the edge of the small lake nearby. Such signs seem to indicate that they spend quite some time sitting motionless at the water's edge.

I saw none hanging around the mouth of Shaishnikof River where salmon are spawning and dying and thus where one would surely expect to find such a scavenger as the Raven. Their ab-

Gilmore
1931

NORTHERN RAVEN (4)

sence is due perhaps to the almost daily visits of hunting parties of sailors from the cutter who consider the raven fair game. Under such conditions it wouldn't take long for the ravens to "get out & stay out."

Sept. 18 Ravens still quite plentiful - noticed from sea level to the tops of the highest peaks. Their loud "cawing" may be heard for miles. They also have a harsh "coughing" note which I have ^{heard} them utter only when perched near a ~~congenial~~ companion.

Immatures seem to far outnumber the adults.

Ravens were seen occasionally in English Bay on Oct 3, and in Ungvik Bay on Oct. 4.

Oct 12 Akutay, Akutay Is., N. Alaska

Ravens are common about this bay, especially around the rocky cliffs and the whaling station where Mr. Kugler, the mgr., states that he has killed up as high as 200 in one season.

Gilmore
1931

Northern Violet Green Swallow

June 8 St. Michael, Alaska

Many seen - dozen + pair nesting in
old river boats on marsh 15 miles
S. of town.

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Id. Alaska

Many nesting in buildings in town.

Gilmore WATER OUZEL ①
1931

Sept. 11. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska. Spec. No. 2086 was taken on the stream flowing into Gull Lake just South east of town.

Sept. 19 Spec. No. 2154 was taken on the stream that flows into Duck Lagoon back of Ammer's Bay. I was up stream from it when it flew and it circled ~~it~~ below, swinging back and flew up stream. I followed the stream up for several hundred yards before I found it. The tendency to escape this occasion was certainly upstream rather than downstream. The testicles are black.

Oct. 3 English Bay, N. Unalaska Is., Aleutians. Spec. No. 2218; & 2219 were taken at the mouth of the stream at the head of English Bay and one of them exhibited the following antics. At my approach around a bend it flushed about 15 yds to a small rock in the stream. When I shot, it tumbled off into the swift current and was carried rapidly down stream, aiding its progress by short ~~flat~~ jerky ~~driving~~ motions. It sunk very low

Gilmore 1931 WATER OUZEL (2)

in the water and preserved its equilibrium perfectly. Finally it took refuge under a bank of sod and ^{as} I waded into the water to dislodge the apparently wounded bird, it suddenly flew ~~from~~ out from under my hands and dashed around a bend in the creek some 10 yds up stream. ~~and apparently~~ It was evidently unhurt. I walked cautiously towards the bend and there saw it perched on a rock. I refrained from shooting and ~~for~~ after several minutes of bobbing up and down it flew back to its former perch nearer me and unconcernedly commenced to feed in the shallow rippling water. It fed here for about 5 minutes before I secured it. Was its ~~very~~ pantomime of a wounded bird merely a blind?

Its feeding actions were rapid and sure. Wading into the water it thrust its bill under the surface to catch every noticeable grub and when the water became too deep it due to some small pocket, it traversed it on the surface with a lurching take off. Occasionally it completely submerged itself in its probing after food. It uttered no call

Gilmore 1931 WATER OUZEL (3)

Note or any sound whatever during the whole performance.

They are locally known as "Boss of the Creek."

Another one observed uttered a ^{series} of sharp metallic squeaks when disturbed.

Noted at the creek in Hot Springs Canyon on Oct. 23. Akutan Island.



Gilmore Alaska Winter Wren
 1931 May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska.

One dessicated carcass seen - it was picked up in cave. none others seen.

Sept. 18 I have found these tiny wrens only along the rocky beaches. They seem to be quite at home on the large boulders in the surf or among the piles of beach debris nearby. Quite scarce.

Sept. 19 At the base of the crumbling cliffs at the west entrance to Summer's Bay and next to the ~~the~~ pounding surf I found a half a dozen of these birds sitting about the rocks & beach debris. They nervously flew from box to plank to boulder, and at my approach took refuge in any bit of dense vegetation at the base of the cliff.

Sept. 22 Unalaska. Saw only 5 today on my walk to & from Summer's Bay. They were generally in pairs. I have not as yet heard any note.

Oct. 9 Akutan, Akutan Is., N. Aleutian Is.

Saw but one during my walk along the rocky beach but was not able to secure it.

Gilmore
1931

UNALASKA WINTER WREN (2)

Oct. 14 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., N. Aleutian Is.

Spec. No. 2259 was secured among the tall grass at the edge of the beach near the whaling station. Some of these tiny birds hang around the buildings & plant limits of the station. So far I have not heard them utter a sound.

Salmon Robin
1931

seen at St. Michael, ~~Aniak~~ Cascade
Creek, & Nome. One pair is nesting
over door of Rex Beach's old cabin.

Gilmore
1931

Olive Backed Thrush

June 9 Cascade Creek, Norton Id., Alaska

Several pairs seen in the wooded creek bottom - birches, willows, & few spruces, & berry bushes

Silmore
1931

WHEATEAR (1)

Aug. 17 Igāra, Pt. Hope, Alaska

Spec. 1903 is the first I have seen. It was accompanied by another which disappeared at the report of the gun. I first noticed the bird as I was bending over a squirrel trap. It was hopping along a gravelly ridge on the tundra & its companion was 10 yds away. At my first movement it flew about 20 yds farther off.

Aug 18 (Same locality) Spec. no. 1907 was taken ~~off~~ while it was perched on the gravelly tundra, sparsely grown with grass, & near the school house. It was alone. The distinguishing feature of sight identification is the pure white upper & lower tail coverts & rump and the black tip to the end of the tail. The rest of the bird has a light creamy brown appearance.

Aug 19 - First day of abundance. Generally seen perched on some hummock on the tundra where they had alighted. They were quite wary, flying before me at a distance of 30-75 yds with exasperating monotony. The momentum



Gilmore
1931

WHEATEAR (2)

of their flight generally carried them several feet along the ground on a rapid run after they lit. White patch at base of tail very conspicuous. No notes or calls noticed as yet; generally I haven't given them time to do much but dodge lead shot.

August 22 Very common everywhere on the peninsula from the end of the point along the long stretch of sand & gravel & grass to the tundra rises halfway to the hills. They nervously fly about or run rapidly over the tundra. No call notes noted.

Aug 24 Cape Thompson, Alaska

Several pairs were seen in the rocky canyon leading up thru the cliffs of the cape.

Gilmore RED SPOTTED BLUE THROAT ①
1931

Igarka, Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean
Aug 17. Spec. 1901 was the first I
have seen & was taken among the
old house ruins of the old village
site. It had been in a damp depression
& suddenly flew up in front of me
and lit about 30 yds away on a
better point of vantage. There I
secured it & the detonation of the
gun sent every ^{native hut was} ~~tree~~ grubbing in
the house pits, climbing out to
see what was going on. The distinctive
~~color~~ color feature was the rich
reddish brown tail coverts which
are flushed conspicuously in flight.

August 23 Noticed several about the
old village site this morning but
tho I chased them assiduously
they failed to relent & become "size"
specimens. They continually skirted
about the ruins, & ~~kept~~ keeping well
out of sight until they took wing
with a rapid dodging flight for
a hundred yards or so & then
the performance was repeated. No
call notes noted.

Gilmore
1931

ALASKA WILLOW WARBLER (1)

NOME ALASKA

July 12 Spec. 1611 flew aboard in a dense fog as we anchored off Nome & was caught by a sailor. There was another also that served as a semmulent pet in the wardroom.

Trigata, Point Hope, Alaska

Aug 16 Spec. No. 1891 was caught in a mouse trap set on an old house mound in the ancient village site. ~~From others~~ I have not seen any others.

Gilmore
1931

YELLOW WAGTAIL ①

Tigata, Point Hope, Alaska. Arctic Ocean
Aug 17 No. 1902 is the first taken &
was caught in a mouse trap set in
the ruins of an old house in the
old village site.



Gilmore
1931

American Pipit

Dolgoy Harbor Dolgoy Island, S.W. Alaska

May 24 saw several of these birds on the tops of the hills. They flew high into the air & hovered like a lark.

Sept. 11. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians.

Spec. No. 2089 was taken near the summit of a high saddle between the peaks to the south east. It was in company with another.

Sept. 18. This particular saddle, is the pass over to Beaver Inlet & here is the only place I have seen Pipits. For three consecutive days I saw them in the same spot and then they were gone.

Gilmore
1931

Aleutian Rosy Finch - *Leucosticte grisomeucha*
May 31, Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Mason ran into a huge bunch 50 ±
at snow bank above Captain's Harbor.
+ later saw a few on Lincoln Pk.
on Amaknak Is.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.

During my afternoons walk around
Cape Glory of Russia, I saw about a dozen
or so of these finches. The first
one was flying around a pinnacle
of rock that over-looked the beach
several hundred feet below. The
rest were seen in flocks of 3-6
up a rocky canyon nearby.

Sept. 6 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

In the rocky narrow portion of
the Shaishnikov River back of
Captain's Harbor I saw about half
a dozen of these birds. One scattered
flock of 5 was working up the
precipitous side of the canyon when
I encountered them.

Sept. 18 These birds seem to be quite
scarce, at least in the areas I have
been working. I took one, No. 2111, in



Gilmore
1931

ALEUTIAN ROSE FINCH (2)

the narrow rocky portion of Cascade Cr. and another, 2133, in a rocky dry stream bed at the edge of the beach. So far I have not heard them utter a single note. The testicles on these birds are black, and ~~they~~ ^{the intestines} are infested with a worm of some sort.

Sept. 22, Unalaska. While walking back from Summers Bay this morning in a drizzle of rain, I came upon a large flock of these birds. The 20-25 birds flew down to the rocky beach from the cliffs above & then began to forage on the scant vegetation growing on the steep slope at the base of the cliff. They were quite wary & I heard no notes.

Oct. 14, Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., A. Aleutian Is.

While walking around & climbing the rugged peak back of the whaling station today I saw several flocks. One was flying distractedly around the crags of the peak in disorderly & nervous fashion, ^{continually} uttering a disconnected series of limpid chirps. The other two flocks were on the hilltops below the

Gilmore
1931

ALUTIAN ROSE FINCH (3)

peak or in the canyons. 20-25 individuals made up the flocks and they fly around with a reckless abandon and devil-may-care attitude, under delayed follow-the-leader impulses from any leader ~~whom~~ whose actions may happen to seem desirable to the majority. Sometimes they fly long distances in a straight course, as if bound for some rendezvous; at other times they scatter around, veering from canyon wall to canyon wall or from pinnacle to pinnacle with no apparent object or purpose.

One such wandering flock was broken up in consternation by the sudden dive of a Duck Hawk into their midst, but they soon assembled again & resumed their aimless erratic course.

Oct. 20 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is.

Spec. 2273-74-75 were killed halfway up the rocky mt. in rear of the whaling station as I walked up in a cold drizzle of rain and hail. Evidently they were curious about my intrusion for

Sillmore
1931

ALEUTIAN ROSE FINCH ♂

they halted suddenly in their flight and lit on some nearby rocks above me. Another flock of 15 or so flew down the mountain from the summit to me. They uttered a clear slow limpid chirp as they flew aimlessly about.

Oct. 21 No. 2285 was alone when taken on the side of the rocky ridge to the N.W. Generally these birds are in flocks & rarely are found alone.



Gilmore
1931

Common Redpoll

June 9 Cascade Cr. Norton Id. Alaska

Found along the creek bottom, among
dense willows & birches. Found in pairs.

July 19 Teller, Port Clarence, Alaska

No 1794 taken along small stream -
in scattering of willows 8-10' high.

Gilmore
1931

ALUTIAN SAVANNAH SPARROW ①

May 24 Dolgoi Harbor, Dolgoi Is., Alaska

Very common - most often seen on hillides & flats - around willows. Scarce on top of ridges & along sea shore. Commonest form of bird.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Very common - by far the commonest form - seen often from sea level far up sides of hills. Seems to prefer open fields.

June 11, Unalakleet Norton Id., Alaska

Quite common on tundra. Two nests found, well concealed concealed under dwarf birch. 4" across, 3" deep - lined with duck(?) feathers; 5 eggs, light blue background & dark brown blotches.

Sept. 10 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

The commonest land bird. Seen almost everywhere one goes, but they prefer a bushy or heavily overgrown habitat. I have seen them skulk along a path in front of me for 100 yds or so, progressing by short swift runs rather than

Gilmore ALUTIAN SAVANNAH SPARROW (2)
1931

by flight. Their flights are short jerky affairs and they rarely stay perched on one ~~limb~~ ^{twig} very long. In short their whole action complex is very nervous.

Sept 11 (Same) Nos. 2084, 85 were infested with tape worms (perhaps round worms). Saw several flocks of 8-10 on the ridges. These flocks seemed to be merely flying about for sport and not feeding. At some unknown cause they would suddenly take wing and dart off down the mountain side in a breath taking zig-zagging drop, continuing toward the bottom of the canyon until they were lost to sight.

Sept. 18 I have found them very common along the beach between here and Summer's Bay; In fact, their center of abundance seems to be along the beach where high grassy flats ~~come~~ lie right behind.

There seems to be juveniles and immatures in the flocks. Perhaps they nest more than once a season!

Oct. 1 (Same locality, Unalaska). These sparrows are still quite plentiful, especially around the S. end of town.

Gilmore
1931

ALEUTIAN SAVANNAH SPARROW (3)

Oct. 14, Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., Aleutians

No. 2260 was caught in a 'mouse' trap set in heavy grass on side hill near beach. I have not seen many of these sparrows here - perhaps for 4 and presume that they have, as the McLachlans claim, gone south. Noticed that they were scarce on the east end of Unalaska Is., at English & Agamgik Bay.

Gilmore
1931

Fox Sparrow

May 24 Volgovi Harbor, Volgovi Is., Alaska
Quite common tho very shy. Found
in scrub willow thickets on hillsides.

May 31 Ukhalaska, Ukhalaska Is., Alaska
None seen.

Aug. 27 Kotzebue, Kotzebue Id., Alaska.
One bird seen perched in someone's
back yard.

Gilmore
1931

Tree Sparrow

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Id., Alaska.

Several pairs seen on tundra north of town. Acted like Savannah Sparrows tho seemed to hang around drift wood more.

Gilmore
1931

Alutian Song Sparrow ①

May 24 Dolgoi Harbor, Dolgoi Island, Alaska

Several seen but only along rocks on shore. Seemed to feed on sea bank, cliff & among wave washed rocks & beach stranded kelp.

Generally alone.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Mason took only one seen - same habitat as on Dolgoi.

Sept. 18 (Unalaska) - The habitat of this ~~bird~~ faintly shy bird seems to be along the rocky, gravelly beaches. The only other place I have ever seen one was in the front garden of a house in the center of town.

Along the whole length of the beach between here and Summers Bay to the east, they may be found in appreciable numbers, generally singly, tho sometimes in pairs.

As they feed among the wet boulders & beach debris, they cock their tails over their backs in a very faint manner much like a wren. They are quite shy and elusive and when wounded are very quick to hide under any cover. I have not heard them utter a single

Gilmore 1931 ALEUTIAN SONG SPARROW. (2)

note as yet.

Sept. 19. These birds are very common along the rocky beach between town and Summer's Bay and seem to do most of their feeding ^{among} the rocks & boulders of the beach. I watched one feeding on the face of a crumbly cliff and it hopped from ledge to ledge, scattering tiny pebbles down, as it searched diligently for some sort of food. Just what kind of food exists on those ledges & in the cracks and crevices of the rock, I don't know.

Sept. 22 Unalaska. Today at Summer's Bay I heard a Song Sparrow sing for the first time. It sat on a moderate sized rock - 3-4' tall - in the surf and uttered a melodious trill of double noted syllables. The first note was lower in tone than the last which was reached by a rising inflection in the voice.

♩

Common at English Bay. Oct. 3. - seen only along the rocky beach line and ~~along~~ ^{at} the mouth of the stream

Gilmore
1931

ALEUTIAN SONG SPARROW (3)

Oct. 12 Akutan, Akutan Is., W. Aleutian Is.

These birds are very common here along the shore line, among grass and rocks, and about the clock of the whaling station.

Oct. 14 Akutan Bay. These sparrows are common around the whaling station and here I have heard them sing more often than usual. Their song is a typical song sparrow song, tho it seems a little less melodious & smooth than the song sparrows of the western U.S. Seem to run in pairs. Do they mate for life? - If so they must be residents thru out the year which so far seems likely.

Wilmore Alaska Longspur
1931

May 24 Solgoi Harbor, Solgoi Is
Few seen.

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska
Common - same habitat as Savannah Sparrow tho they seem to prefer higher altitudes. Have a short whistle similar to lark. Dark throat is conspicuous feature.

June 3 Cape Etolin, Nunavut Is., Alaska
these birds together with Snowflakes were the only land birds seen. A doz. or so pairs were seen on the tundra.

June 8 St. Michael Alaska
Common

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Id. Alaska
Commonest bird.

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska - The commonest bird on land, and apparently the only Fringillidae along with the Snow Bunting. Invariably seen in pairs.

Common at Teller.

Puut Hope Arctic Ocean, Alaska
Aug 2. Common on the tundra of



Gilmore
1931

ALASKAN LONGSPUR (2)

the peninsular. Their colors seem much more subdued - perhaps the fall moult is on & young birds are present in the groups.

August 22 Common - apparently a resident bird. The white outer tail feathers and general dark brown plumage are distinctive sight features.

Sept 18 Unalaska Unalaska Is., Aleutians
Not very common now. Noticed in the meadows, about the lagoons or on the outskirts of town.



Gilmore PRIBILOF SNOW BUNTING ①

1931

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska.

Quite common on foothills. Black & white coloration conspicuous.

June 3 Cape Etolin, Nunivak Is., Alaska

Several pairs seen around the rocks on the beach - allow very close approach.

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska Common - seen in pairs & generally near the beach or rocky cliffs or creeks.

Point Hope Arctic Ocean, Alaska

Aug 2. A dozen or so have been seen - plumage subdued in tone.

Aug 22. Commonest about the old village site & the mission graveyard. They feed about the ruins of the old houses & mounds & are quite tame. Often caught in mouse traps.

Sept. 18. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

So far I have seen "snowflakes" only on the crests of the highest peaks & ridges. They seem to confine themselves to this bleak rocky habitat.

Gilmore 1931 TRIBILOF SNOW BUNTING (2)
Oct. 25. Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians
Here at Akutan I wandered about
the hills many days before I saw
any and then I encountered a flock
of 8-12 on the side of a rocky ridge
of gentle slope. The birds in full
winter plumage of brown, black and
white were resting on or around a
small boulder. The unity of the group
gave me the impression of a migrating
group, resting after a long flight.
Spec. 2290 came from the group.

Gilmore McKAY'S SNOW BUNTING

1931 Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.

During $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs ashore, I saw about 75-100 of these large "snow flakes". They were in bunches of 10-20 and preferred the rocky canyons and hill tops to the flats below. Quite tame.

Section 2
Mammals

Alaska: Species Accounts
1931

R M Gilmore

Gilmore
1931

SOREX jacksoni

Sorex caereus hollisteri

July 12, Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea,
Alaska. Three pairs teats on ♀ (1 inguinal,
1 lower abdominal, 1 upper abdominal)

The neck of a Least Auklet, caught in a
rat trap, had been eaten into by what
was probably a shrew. Perhaps these
voracious devils live off the eggs &
nestlings of the Least Auklets in
the rookeries. Apparently they
are found, in summer at least,
in the rock piles where auklets
nest - I caught them nowhere
else. In winter however, the
natives claim that they come
into the village & eat the meat
in the houses. Caught during the
day as often as night.

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska

Aug 24. I did not catch a single shrew
during my whole stay of almost four
weeks, tho I trapped assiduously for
them. The natives know what they are
and say that they are to be found
in the houses, in the old village site,
and in the meat cellars. I gave traps



Silmore SOREX (Cont.) (2)
1931

to natives and offered to pay them well for every specimen, and I planted traps thru out the old village site and in the meat cellars, but not a single shrew was taken. Undoubtedly this is a year of scarcity.

June 7 St. Michael, Alaska.

Jumping back in time several months I recall Mrs. Evans, Govt. Nurse, saying that ^{during} this past ~~late~~ winter and spring shrews were very common around St. Michael. They entered the homes in such numbers that every morning for a week or so, their dead bodies would be found in all water containers.

Sept 14. Unalaska, Alaska

I have been trapping extensively since my arrival for these animals but have had negative results. I have tried all types of suitable associations from sea level up to 1000 or more feet. In addition, ~~no~~ every one in town that I have questioned, and they include storekeepers, fisherman, trappers and plain civilians, have never seen

Gilmore
1931

SOREX (cont.) (3)

a shrew on this island. The only place I have yet to trap in, is the rocky cliff backed beach on the S.E. side of the harbor.

The following information was offered by Mr. Albert Olsen, and concerns the shrews around the base head of the Alaska Peninsula; False Pass, Morzhovi, Cold, & Izembek Bays. Several years ago (shrews are subject to periodic fluctuations of population: regularity of fluctuations?) the shrews became so ~~more~~ numerous that they invaded every shack and shanty in quest of meat for food. Olsen had hams & bacon, devoured so ~~he~~ on one occasion he placed ~~the~~ ^{his} meat in a pan & set the pan in a tub of shallow water so that water entirely surrounded the inside meat filled pan. The next morning the ^{water in the} tub was almost filled with drowned shrews, and several had reached the meat, evidently over the bodies of their dead comrades.

Shrews do not seem to be known

Silmore 1931 Sorex (cont.) (4)

on any island west of the Alaska Peninsula, with the possible exception of Umnak.

Sept 18 Unalaska - Mr. Paul ^{McLushan} ~~McLushan~~, whom I just met today, states that shrews are common on Sigalda Is. This is as far west as I can trace them.

Oct. 12 Akutan, Akutan Is W. Aleutian Is.
From the McLushans here, I learn that shrews are common on Sigalda and Umnak but not found farther west. In view of the stormy weather ~~for~~ hereabouts I doubt if I will get any farther east than Akutan Is. Navigating in a small boat is very dangerous and I doubt if I could get any skipper to take me over to Sigalda Is.

Gilmore
1931

Ursus ①

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Id. Alaska
Said to be common in hills back
of coast where they bother the
reindeer considerably. A half
dozen or so are killed every
season. One native, Edward,
quite intelligent, said that
he knew the bears herded
the reindeer, one bear on each
flank & one at the rear. Again;
that they kill the calves for
pleasure ~~but~~ prefer to eat the
older ones.

Igata, Point Hope, Alaska Arctic Ocean
August 22 Learned from Bob
Tuckfield, reliable as a rule, that
there are quite a few brown bears
in the hills between Lisburne and
Thompson & that one is killed
every year or so by the reindeer
herders. From this attitude I gather
that the bears are not very large
and not feared very much.

Sept. 10 Unelaska, Unalaska Is, Alaska
From Henry Swanson and Albert

Gilmore 1931 URSUS (cont.) (2)

Olsen I have gleaned the following information about the great brown bear of Umanak and the lower Alaskan Peninsula.

They are very numerous on Umanak Is. Swenson, while weather bound in a northern bay, saw five in a short walk back from the beach. The few old trappers left on the island, those who were on it when it was made a game reserve and allowed to stay, report that the bears tear down their shacks whenever they are left for a short time, as a month or two. The largest skull Swenson reports measured 18" across the "brow". Perhaps this means across the frontal bones just posterior to the orbits. Even so, it sounds like a "tall one" to me.

Albert Olsen, who has shot ~~many~~ many bear, states that the largest skull he has ever seen measured 23" from the Foramen magnum to the upper incisors; straight line measurements. A very large skin he once helped to kill, measured 10'4"

Gilmore URSUS cont. (3)
1931

in length. He states that the distance between the claws of the front feet on a skinned hide should be very close to the total length.

They seem to go into hibernation about the latter part of December and come out sometime in April. However, he has seen tracks in January & on the 7th of January some years ago a bear ate up some his fresh meat at his ~~to~~ cabin on Nelson's Lagoon - very low in altitude for bears at that time of the year. They prefer the hills to hibernate in.

Since 1909 bears have about doubled in numbers and their trails line the creeks like well ~~beaten~~ laid out sidewalks, ~~and~~ and one may follow their paths from one end of the peninsula to the other.



Gilmore Thalarctos ①
1931

June 19 - South Side of St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska 10 miles off land.

This morning about 10:30 AM. we overtook a polar bear cub (half grown) swimming in the water and followed it up with the ship. It swam steadily thru the water in between the ice cakes and when a small ~~shallow~~ piece of ice was in the way it gracefully dove underneath. It swam almost entirely with its fore legs with occasional lopsided kicks with its ~~four~~ hind feet. As we came upon it the first time it veered suddenly to one side & gained about 100 yds on us before the ship could be swung about.

Again we approached it and soon it was directly under the bow. This time it swung to one side, and climbing wearily upon a cake of ice, limbered ~~it~~ across it and dove headlong off the other side. Here the chase ended and we resumed our way. It uttered no sound thru out the entire pursuit.

Belmore Thalarctos (2)

1931

June 24, 1931 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is.,
Bering Sea, Alaska

Today ~~two~~ ~~five~~ two polar bears were killed by the natives from a whale boat far out on the ice. They were a mother & a cub and were found swimming along between the caes of ice & shot. The killing of a polar bear is quite an achievement and is attended by a short ceremony at the spot where the bear is killed. When skinned the skin of the nose is left on ^{the carcass}. This peculiar thing is practiced on all seal also but not the walrus. The skulls of polar bear are religiously guarded & finally placed upon the grave of the hunter.

Native name is "Nomook."

Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean

Aug. 24 About a dozen were killed here this spring. Evidently they are more numerous than farther south tho this year, one was killed at St. Michael. There seems to be an 11 foot

Gilmore
1931

THALARKTOS (3)

skin in this village, tho I haven't seen it as yet. Polar bear skins sell for about \$3⁰⁰ per foot. They say that in winter a good many bears wander into Maryatt Inlet on the ice and roam around the — ? River & adjacent hills.

Gilmore
1931

MUSTELA ①

Aug. 24 Point Hope, Alaska.

A few ermine are taken in the foot-hills every winter but they do not seem to come out on the long sand & gravel peninsula to Tigara at the end of Point Hope.

No form of weasel known on St. Lawrence Is.

Aug. 26 Kotzebue, Kotzebue Sd., Alaska

Hundreds of ermine skins come into Kotzebue from the trapping grounds on the Noatak, Koluk & Selawik Rivers. Right now, prime good W. 1 skins sell for from 1.00 - 1.25 a piece. They seem to be Mustela arcticus tho I couldn't be sure.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

No weasels are known from Unalaska or adjacent islands. Probably they occur on Unimak Is; and they are trapped in moderate numbers on the Alaska Peninsula. Albert Olsen, at False Pass, catches a few, & is willing to send skins & skulls out to my museum.

Gilmore MUSTELA RIXOSA (1)
 1931 June 16. Nome, Alaska. H. L. Mason
 bought a few skins of this tiny
 weasel in Nome for 50¢ apiece.

Aug. 26 Kotzebue, Kotzebue Id., Alaska
 I didn't notice any skins of least
weasels in the trading stores.

Sept 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska,
 Aleutians Is. From Albert Olsen,
 it seems that least weasels are quite
 common on the end of the Alaskan
 Peninsula. He states that they inhabit
 his shacks and in the winter time
 he catches them just to be rid of them.
 They seem to be only 5-7 inches in
 length.

Gilmore MUSTELA VISON - MINK
 1931 July 12 St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea.
 Otto W^m. Geist is preparing to plant
 mink on some of the streams on the
 island but as yet has not done so.
 He feels confident that they will
 live and flourish, tho there may be
 some danger of the streams & ponds
 freezing solid in winter.

Aug. 26. Kotzebue, Kotzebue Is., Alaska
 Hundreds of mink come into the
 trading stores from the Noatak, Kobuk,
 and Selawik Rivers. A good prime
 No. 1 skin brings \$10-15⁰⁰.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska,
Alutian Is. According to Albert Olson,
 mink are found on the end of the
 Alaskan Peninsula but are not very
 common. Perhaps they even extend to
 Unimak Is.

Silmore GULO ①
1931

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Id., Alaska

Wolverine are reported as being fairly numerous in the hills east of here.

June 16, Nome, Alaska

I saw quite a few wolverine on sale in the fur stores at 40⁰⁰ apiece.

July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea. The trading boats from the mainland get "60⁰⁰" in trade for a wolverine fur ~~besides~~ from the natives.

Besides being the most fashionable fur for parka ruffs, it is the most useful, for it will withstand freezing much longer than ordinary fur due to its oiliness, and it is very durable.

Aug 25 Kotzebue, Kotzebue Id., Alaska

Many wolverine skins come into this town from the mountains to the east.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska Albert Olsen of False Pass offers the following information.

Wolverine are not very numerous on the end of the Alaska Peninsula,

Gilmore GULO (2)
1931

and as far as he knows or has heard during his 22 years in the country, only one has ever been taken on Unimak Is.

When hungry they will enter shacks and shanties looking for food and will raise hell with any fur they find, tearing it all to pieces. Olsen ~~et~~ says he knows of a wolverine entering a house of his thru a broken out window pane at least 6' from the floor, and accomplishing the feat without breaking the other panes in the same window.

When very hungry, they will attack porcupine but often come out second best in the encounter.

He states that wolverine are common on the Kamchatka Peninsula in Siberia where he stayed from 1904-7.

Gilmore LUTRA - OTTER
 1931 July 12, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea.
 Otto Wm. Geist has proposed to the
 Alaskan Game Commission to plant river
 otter on the permanent unfrozen
 streams on this island but the ex-
 periment has not as yet been carried
 out.

Aug 26. Kotzebue, Kotzebue Is., Alaska.
 A few otter come into the trading
 stores in this town from the rivers to
 the east.

Sept. 15. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska.
 Aleutian Is. Albert Olsen states that
 a few otter are found on the end of
 the Alaska Peninsula & ~~even~~ perhaps
 even on Unimak Is.

Gilmore
1931

SEA OTTER ①

Sept. 8 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska.
The following data was gathered from Henry Swanson, skipper of the "Kanaga Native".

Sea otter are common from Atka Is. westward and may be seen almost any time feeding in the kelp beds or resting on the rocks of the beach. He has watched them diving & feeding on "Sea eggs", a globular, spiny Echinodermata, in the kelp areas a little way off shore. They bring the sea egg to the surface in their mouth & there, holding it in their front flippers, ~~then~~ crack the thin ~~sea~~ calcareous shell and devour the contents. While hunting seal off the rocky beaches, he has noticed sea otter sunning or resting themselves on the rocks.

Every year several are found dead on the beach and their skins turned over to the govt. who sells them at the best price they will bring, returning the money to the original finder.

Tradition has it that several years, a man poached twelve, and smuggled the skins out to London where, ~~the~~

Gilmore
1931

SEA OTTER (cont.) (2)

thru private sales he averaged \$900⁰⁰ apiece on the skins.

Svenson also states that during his 30 years of sailing & trapping on the whole Aleutian Chain, the numbers of sea otter have remained quite constant.

The general opinion, according to him, is that the govt. should allow a certain limited number to be trapped ^{or shot} each year, and thus allow the trappers, whether white or native, to realize a profit thereby.

Here is a story which I have some doubts about. Svenson once landed a party of trappers on an uninhabited island. These trappers, while walking thru some tall grass near the beach, suddenly scared up 25-50(?) sea otter, who flopped frantically towards the beach. The sea otter had evidently drawn up into the grass to rest.

Oct. 7 Unalakleet I was recently informed by a man who this spring was offered three sea otter skins for \$75⁰⁰ in Kodiak, that sea otter fells are



Gilmore
1931

SEA OTTER (3)

being shipped to London thru Canadian ports every year by Alaskan fishermen. These people secure the sea otter while out during the fishing season and bring the sketched pelts into Victoria or Vancouver, or more often, into Prince Rupert. Often these skins are stretched to 9-11 feet.

Gilmore
1931

VULPES ①

Tigata, Point Hope, Alaska

Aug. 22 About 15-25 red foxes came into the village this winter from the region between Corwin Coal Mine & Cape Thompson. Reds are found all over the mainland in varying numbers. One cross fox was taken last winter. Good ^{red} prime fur will sell for \$25.00.

Sept 14. Unalaska, Alaska

From all I can gather, the red fox seems to be indigenous but I'm not so sure. Anyhow, right now there seems to be lots of crosses & silvers in the fox population.

Gilmore
1931

ALOPEX ①

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is. Bering Sea, Alaska. While foxes are common on the island and have been the source of large incomes for the natives.

Sixteen hours afield, on the river flowing into Iuktook Lagoon, during which we covered 20 miles, gave us glimpses of a dozen or so foxes. They hole up in dens along the creek bed & one den investigated by Mason & Geist held 2 young. At least 4 adults were seen. The pelage is scraggly now, great patches of ^{white} hair having been shed to make way for the bluer summer coat. The young were a dirty gray color. Two young were captured alive by cornering them on a sand beach at the river's edge & running them until they were winded. They were very vicious at first but enough soothing & stroking pacified them a good deal. At one time during the chase they took refuge in the desiccated carcass of a reindeer. The mother was seen nearby but fled.

Gilmore
1931

ALOPEX (2)

About 6-8 are born in a ~~little~~ litter. The natives do not keep them as pets, giving some "rationalistic" excuse, but in reality I think they are looking after their trapping interests.

Each native who traps, has his own area, which he alone traps.

During the summer the progressive ones scatter food (walrus & reindeer) around their area to attract the foxes, & during winter ~~the~~ when they are trapping, cover meat & blubber with rocks on the beach to provide an attractive smell but still keep the morsels out of reach. A good trapping season nets 40 fox with one or two ~~blue~~ of the "blue" color phase. However, some natives have caught as many as 200 in a season. When prime No 1's were selling for \$100.00 apiece the income thus derived was considerable. Now however, the price is around \$40.00 for No 1's. & \$20-25 for poorer grades. The average litter is said to contain from 6-8.

(cont.)

Gilmore ALOPEX (3)
1931

Tigara, Point Hope Alaska

Aug. 22 Not very common here -
about 30 came into the native
store this winter & the Archdeacon
probably got a couple dozen -
This catch represents the area between
Corwin Coal Mine to Cape Thompson.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is., Bering Sea.

Foxes are probably quite common on
the island for I saw three in my
short walk around & over Cape Glory
of Russia. They seem to prefer the
high rocky places to the low flat
areas. Dens, inhabited by Foxes,
were found in a mass of tumbled
moss grown rocks where several Least
Auklets were seen. Probably the latter
nest there. It seems to be commonly
recognized up here in the north that
island Foxes take toll of the available
bird rookeries. The absolute profusion
of mice on St. Matthew Is. should
tend to bring the fox population up
to its maximum.

Gilmore Canis (Wolf)

June 22 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is. Alaska
 Report taken from Mr. Otto Wm. Guist
 of Alaska College, reliable informant.
 During the year 1927, a large lone
 wolf was seen on the island &
 inhabited it for 2 winters & 1 summer.
 (winter 1926-27 - winter 1927-28). It
 came over on the ice and did much
 damage to the reindeer herd by harassing
 them & killed many lambs. It was
 shot at many times and probably
 died from gunshot wounds or left
 the island on the ice. Guist offered
 \$25⁰⁰ reward for the wolf but it
~~had no results.~~ was never collected.

Sept 14 Unalaska, Alaska

According to Albert Olsen, evolves were
 once quite numerous on the Alaska
 Peninsula to its tip but now there
 are none at all, at least on the
 western end.

Gilmore
1931

SEA LION

Oct. 2. Crest Rock, Unalaska Bay.

I saw about a dozen sea lions among the reef rocks here today as I was enroute to English Bay on the "Kanaga Native". They were just inside the "white water" of the reef, and kept bobbing several feet out of the water in curiosity or sport.

Oct. 4. Fisherman's Rocks, English Bay,

E. Unalaska Is. About a half dozen sea lion were "bobbing" in the water about the reef rocks, as I went by in the "Kanaga Native"; until they were scared under by a shot from the rifle of the boat land. Fisherman etc, shoot at sea lions at every opportunity & kill them for the pure lust of killing and to "save the salmon", as they put it. They claim the sea lions destroy thousands of salmon every year, and accordingly ought to be killed. Tho the sea lion is protected on its breeding ground it is fair game anywhere else. Big males are said to attain the length of 15-18' & the weight of two tons.

Gilmore SEA LION (2)
1931

Oct. 8 Akutan, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians

Hugh McLashan states that the
reefs + rocks at the N.E. end of
Agalda Is. are the breeding grounds
of thousands of Sea Lions. This place,
and Bogoslov Is., are the only areas
around where there seems to be
rookeries of Sea Lions.

Gilmore 1931 FUR SEAL ~ Callorhinus alascensis ①

May 19 - off Fairweather Mt. just north of Cross Sound. 3 miles off shore. This evening 6:30 - 9:00 there were many fur seals in the waters. in pairs, threes, & fours. Identification is based on reliable opinion of all the old timers on board, particularly Mr. Wood, Chief Gunner. As he says, "the fur seal comes up to breath & look & goes under again in one continuous forward movement; while the hair seal slips back under the surface when it goes under."

Many of these seals were playing in the water, leaping several feet into the air, or rolling over with flippers waving. We often approached to within 100 yds, before they dove away.

Sept. 2 just East St. Paul Is., Bering Sea. Fur seal were common in the sea as we cruised south with St. Paul Is & St. George Is on our starboard bow beam all day. The herds of seal were

Gilmore
1931

FUR SEAL (cont.) (2)

Not large - perhaps two to five individuals in a bunch. Generally they were playing about, rolling over on the surface with flippers flopping, or jumping out of the water in head long leaps. They were quite curious over the ship, but outside of pausing to watch for a moment with body raised a foot or two out of the surface, they didn't let their inquisitiveness trouble them much.

Gilmore
1931

BEARDED SEAL (1)

Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea.

July 12. Not many of the "big" seal are killed compared with the spotted seal, but they are very much sought after. Oogrook is the native name & the skin is used for the soles of mukluks, rifle cases, etc. Skin sells for \$1.00 per foot.

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska

Aug. 22 About 1 in 10 or 15 seal killed here is an oogrook. Much desired for food, mukluk sole leather & ~~and~~ covers for kyats & umiaks.

Sept. 21 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

Mr. Patterson of Unalga Is. states that last year he killed a tremendous seal, about 6' long, weighing 300-400 lbs & having long stiff whiskers. Its general color was dark and he called it into the beach by emitting an ululating cry with his hand over his mouth. From the description, I judge it to have been a bearded seal. It is the first one he has ever seen here. Its liver weighed 15 lbs.

Gilmore
1931

Spotted or Harbor Seal ①
June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence
Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Commonest
seal - Now a good many young are
seen & are much less wary
than the adults which are rarely
seen on shore. On the contrary,
the almost white young, 3-4
feet long, are frequently found
asleep on rocks or the sand of
the beach & are shot ^{there} & even
captured alive by the natives.

The summer seems to be the
special hunting season for them,
mainly because the other sea
mammals are not present, having
gone north with the ice. As soon
as one is sighted the boat is swinging
to in its direction, rifles extracted
& the chase is on. Every time the
seal comes up for air, his is
quickly scared below again by a
bullet, and this keeps up until
the seal is wounded or killed. Generally
the boat has gotten quite close
before a bullet finds its mark.
Whereupon the motor ^{is} speeded up
to get to the body before it sinks

Gilmore
1931

Spotted or Harbor Seal (2)

which is generally what happens 2 out of 3 times. One boat got 51 seal in a morning hunting off broken shore ice. In winter when the blubber is thicker the seals sink less often.

They are used for food, oil, & leather. Often they are skinned thru the mouth so that the finished skin has a hole at the mouth & anus only. The mouth is sewed shut & a waxy plug inserted in the anus. These skins may thus be filled with air by blowing & used for floats, "poaks".

Tigara, Pt. Hope, Alaska

Aug 15: These seals seem to be very curious - ^{one} they rise out of the water, exposing head & neck, to stare at me ~~at~~ on the beach, & hold the position for a minute or so before ~~they~~ ^{it} sink from sight perhaps to come up nearby & repeat the investigation.

Gilmore SPOTTED SEAL. (3)

1931 Sept. 21 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutians

Mr. Patterson of Unalga Is. states that he kills a dozen or two of these seal every winter. He uses the liver (which he says is delicious) for his own consumption, the skin for his own use, and the rest for of the carcass for fox food.

Oct. 4 - Mr. Swanson said that yesterday, while at the Baby Is. just east of Unalga, he had ~~seen~~^{saw} hundreds of Spotted Hair Seals.

Gilmore Odobenus Walrus ①
1931

June 3 Walrus were seen on the ice of Norton Sound. There were several bunches of 4-6 sitting in huddled masses on the ice. The ice where they stay is often quite dirty from the ~~soil~~ sea bottom brought up on their tusks when they feed. Nearly all the ~~western~~ Bering Sea is under 30 fathoms.

June 24, 1931 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Several walrus have been killed by the natives the last few days and the muting during this time of the ice break-up is almost continuous thru out the day & short night. Mr. Geist and the natives ~~claim~~ claim that the ♀ walrus tend to go north with the retreating ice along its ^{western} ~~eastern~~ part and the males on the ^{eastern} ~~western~~ part. Thus there are more ♂'s ~~claimed~~ killed at Sevoonga & the catch at Gambell is almost entirely ♀'s and young.

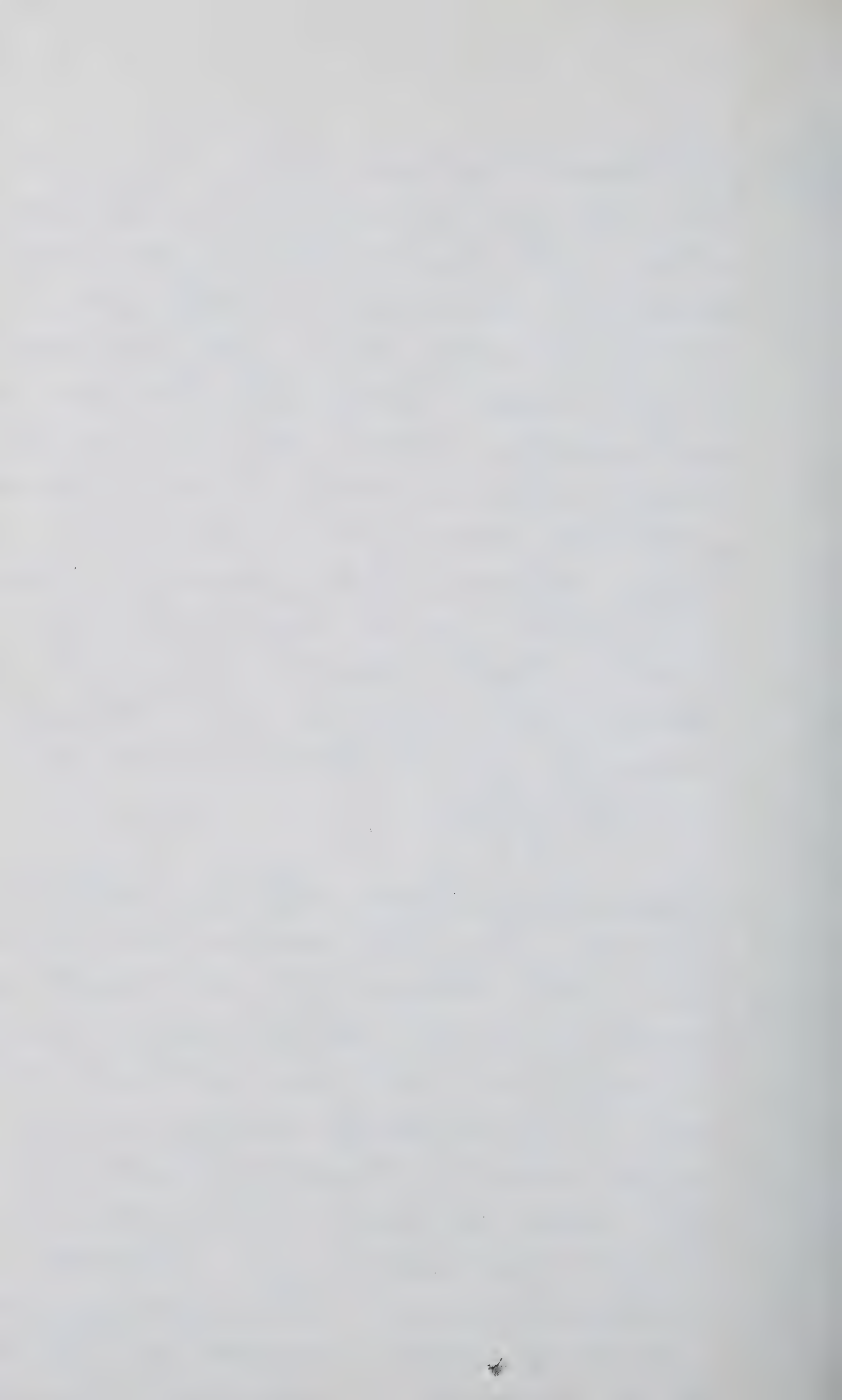
Fresh walrus ivory sells from

Gilman
1931

Odobenus Walrus (2)

50 - 75¢ per pound from the native stores; the male tusks generally selling for more than those from ♀. Old ivory dug from the ancient village sites sells for \$1.50 per lb., and walrus teeth for .15¢ per pound. Pinnuk Islands seem to be a great gathering place for walrus & when unavailable elsewhere ~~they~~ the natives go to Pinnuk for their kill. Much beach ivory found ~~was~~ on the beaches of Pinnuk indicate great numbers, at least in the past.

Tigara Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean
Aug. 23. Very few walrus are killed from this village for the north and south migration takes place quite a ways out to sea where the ice is constantly ~~moving~~ being moved about & leads formed by the main current. This current swings coastward up towards Wainwright and the walrus there approach close enough to ~~land~~ ^{the shore} to be regularly hunted. On the



Gilmore 1931 ODOBENUS Walrus (3)

South shore of the Point Hope sand spit I found the carcasses of two walrus, a ♂ & ♀, still intact except for the head which had been severed. The natives say that these walrus are killed around the Diomedes & King Islands, the tusks cut out & the bodies cast adrift.

Sept. 10 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

How Albert Olsen states that up until 1922 a herd of 15-50 walrus spent the entire year on the low sand islands north of Izembek Bay. Ivory tusks broken in conflict or from dead carcasses have been found by him all along the beaches on the north side of the peninsula.

Otto Wm. Guist claims that he has found a "dying place" of old walrus on the north side of the peninsula and has dug up and picked up many fine ~~ages~~ old tusks, colored with age. Just where this place is, he didn't mention, but it seems to be located near some hot springs.

Gilmore ODOBENUS (4)
1931

Oct. 1. Unalaska

I have seen ^{colored} beach ivory picked up recently here in Unalaska. It was old ivory for if walrus ever got this far south it must have been a long time ago.

Gilmore Marmota
1931

June 17, Nome Alaska Said to occur very rarely in mountains back of Nome.

Tupia, Point Hope, Alaska. Arctic Ocean Aug 2. Marmots are found thru out the hills from Cape Thompson up past Cape Lisbourne, & along & back of the coast up into the De Long & Endicott Mts. The preponderance of skins, which are greatly valued for parkas, come from the ~~Pitme~~ headwaters & middle course of the Pitmegea River some 50 miles N.E. of Lisbourne. I saw one of "Sigirikpook" parka & the furs were of a general golden brown grizzled color.

I made an attempt to secure some by hiking to the hills back of Cape Thompson from the local reindeer camp, but I did not have enough time for much of a reconnaissance & saw no signs.

Quite a few skins also come from the headwaters of the Kobuk & Noatak Rivers.



Gilmore
1931

Citellus ①

May 31

Unalaska, Unalaska Is. Alaska

♀ have 5 pairs teats, 1 inguinal, 2 abdominal, 1 thoracic, 1 axillary.

♂s, especially old, very scarred & cut, probably from fighting with each other for food.
Seem to store up supplies of fern bulbs Polypodium (referred to Mason 1931 - No 6037)

Very common; found from sea level up to tops of high hills 2000' high. Burrows everywhere & they probably are the principal source of food for foxes & hawks.

June 11, Unalakleet, Norton Id., Alaska

Said to be common in hills 3 miles back of town. I saw 4 inside-out felts in Eskimo's house → Used for parkas & trimmings etc.

June 17 Nome Alaska - one seen alongside of road as we drove to gold dredges. Stood on hind quarters like picket pin.

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. Not very common tho perhaps in places

Gilmore
1931

CITELLUS (2)

there are large colonies. They seem to prefer high sandy or rocky places near the beach. Natives call them tsik - tsik.

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean
Aug 8. I have seen squirrels, "Sigit^{all}it^{ik}", along the south side of the spit from the village of Tigara to Cape Thompson. They inhabit the hummocks in the tundra & old sod houses are a favorite place. They are quite numerous & often allow a close approach so it is a comparatively easy matter to get them with a shotgun. The "sure catch" rat traps don't even phase them. One squirrel lost an eye upon being hit on the head by such trap & the next day I shot it as it was foraging about its burrow. They seem to eat the green leaves of a certain plant that grows quite abundantly here. I have saved the cheek pouch contents of Nos. 1813 & 1814. Only when surprised

Gilmore
1931

CITELLUS (3)

at close quarters do they seem to utter their shrill staccato whistle.

Strangely I have caught males almost exclusively (In retrospect, Nos. 1809, 1860 may be ♂s too). Perhaps the ♀s are in the nests raising a litter of young. Some are quite fat & others lean, tho it seems time to start piling up the fat for the long winter hibernation.

The "panculus carnosus" muscle is very heavy in this species, ^{and} the meat is tough to the touch & has a strong odor.

Aug 21 Data on spec. No. 1860 - It was feeding in a damp depression of land about 50 yds from its burrow, toward which it ran when I surprised it.

It still clutched a bunch of dead vegetation between its teeth after death.

Five pairs of teats (1 inguinal, 2 abdominal, 1 upper thoracic & 1 axillary).

It is the first definitely identified ♀ I have taken here at Pt. Hope.

It had three nipples in the anus - very similar to those in the skunk.

~~One is~~ They are located on each ^{lateral} side.

Gilmore
1931

CITELLUS (4)

+ the anterior side of the anus & seem to be scent glands.

Aug. 12. Took a young individual No. 1867 - perhaps born in hibernation perhaps just after they came out in the spring! (April!)

Aug. 17. The ♂ citellus have the same scent nipples in the anus much as in the ♀.

As a rule the immatures are very hard to sex for the ♀ show no signs of mammary glands and the clitoris is so well developed in the ♀s that by merely feeling the groin will give one the impression that the specimen in hand is a male. Close examination is necessary. The greater proportion of the population seems to be immatures - old adults are seldom taken. The natives are trapping them quite extensively to obtain the fur.

One individual, upon being extracted from a steel trap uttered a continuous stream of plaintive cries, shrill and loud, and interspersed

Gilmore
1931

CITELLUS (5)

them with a grunting growl. It was really surprising what a volume and variety of noises it voiced when in pain, anger and fear.

Aug. 19. Today I noticed many small holes scratched in the tundra about their burrows. Purpose??

Sept. 1. No squirrels noticed on St. Matthew Is.

Sept. 14 Unalaska, Alaska. Tho the squirrels are not in much evidence just now on account of the tall dense vegetation, they are still very much present, their identity being often betrayed by a loud short whistle or squeak. By far the majority of the population seems to be made up of young of the year.

The three nipples in the anus, much as described on preceding pages from the squirrels of Point Hope, are present and are greatly in evidence when an animal is being extracted from a trap. The odor at the time, however, was rather difficult to detect.

The tops of many of the large

Simone CITELLUS (C)

mushroom-like ~~fungi~~ fungi that grow in this region, have been gnawed by squirrels.

Sept. 19. (Same locality) I was much surprised to find fresh burrows and recent excrement on the very summit of the high peak at the head of Cascade Falls, which I have named "Needle Peak" because it is so sharp. These burrows are right on the very crest in soil among the rocks and not so far away is the roosting place of Bald Eagles & Goshawks.

Mr. Pedler of the U.C. Co. says he has heard that the squirrels were introduced on this island for fox food some 20-30 years ago.

Sept. 29 Unalaska. I was much surprised to see fresh burrows on the very top of Needle Peak. The dirt and excrement was fresh and the mouths of the burrows were not more than 15 ft. from a little mound used as a perching spot by eagles.

Sept. 21 Unalaska. Today, while talking to Capt. Nelson of the "Comice" & Mr. Patterson of Unalga Is., I learned

Gilmore
1931

CITELLUS (7)

that from 1897-1900, or thereabouts, a Mr. Applegate planted squirrels on this island for fox food. Where he got them I couldn't find^{out}, but it seems logical to suppose that was from the most easily accessible spot on the mainland. The foxes, however, do not eat them. Patterson says the squirrels are too big for the foxes to handle, but I believe the squirrels are in general distasteful.

Mr. Applegate was a surveyor by trade until he took up fox farming on all the islands he could get, and the indiscriminate transplanting of mice & squirrels from island to island.

Oct. 16 Akutan Bay, Akutan Is., E. Aleutians
No squirrels on Akutan Is! - at least I did not see any, and the inhabitants say that there are none here.

Silmore
1931

Lemmus ①

June 11, 1931 Unalakleet, Norton Id., Alaska
Said to occur in mountains the
reports as to numbers vary from
"rare" to "common".

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean
Aug 1. Specimen No. 1805 was brought
to me by a couple of Eskimo kids
while I was at the reindeer camp.
They had caught it at the edge of
the tundra ~~to~~ bordering on the
sands of the beach & very close
to the row of tents. It is the
only one I have seen so far &
the the 'Watrous' say they are
common, & I have native boys
& traps on the watch, none have
been caught here at the village.

No. 1805 had 4 pairs of teats
(1 inguinal, 1 lower abdominal, 1 upper
thoracic & 1 axillary).

Silmon
1931

Sicrostomys ①

June 11 Unalakleet, Norton Is., Alaska

Eskimo women reported one last winter & said it was found on snow drift & thought by some to have dropped from the sky. Most natives interviewed denied my knowledge of them. They are certainly rare at any rate.

June 20, Sambell, St. Lawrence Is., Alaska.

No. 1616 was taken from a couple of Eskimo kids on the beach by Mr. Otto W^m Geist, who kindly turned it over to me. They are scarce, this being the third seen on St. Lawrence in 3 yrs. by Mr. Geist — and are almost unknown by the younger people. The older people have ^{the} same belief that they fall from the sky when ~~found~~ found & even ascribe a zigzag descent to their fall. No. 1616 had four embryos, fairly well developed, and had four teats (1 inguinal, 1 abdominal, 1 thoracic, and 1 axillary)

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska — Obtained

Gilmore
1931

DICROSTONYX (2)

one specimen in the flesh & one dried skin at Sevoonga. An Eskimo boy caught the former on a rise of tundra a quarter of mile back from the beach. The history of the other is unknown. Anyhow - they are scarce & may be encountered almost anywhere.

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean

I did not take any specimens here - they seem to be very scarce. The occasionally I ran across a native who knew the "white mouse" Aug. 24.

Sept. 15 Unalaska Unalaska Is., Alaska.

Alutian Is. Tho there is a Dicrostonyx from this island, I cannot locate a trace of it. No one here knows what it is and so far the traps have yielded none.

Sept. 18 Hooray! Caught one - No. 2137 -

Female - four pairs teats (1 inguinal, 1 abdominal, 1 thoracic + 1 axillary) - it was taken in a rock slide up under the high knife ridge at the head of Cascade Falls. Piles of excrement were common

Gilmore
1931

DICROSTONYX (3)

about and under the rocks but only one of the 15 traps set there produced a ~~lemming~~ lemming.

Sept. 19 Unalaska. Spec. 2150 was taken in the same locality as the last one. Skull was damaged and it had 3 medium sized embryos.

Probably the Dicrostonyx population is larger up around Pyramid Peak which has numerous rock slides on its north & west faces.

Later: Investigated Pyramid Peak & found the rock slides to be small and thin & devoid of Dicrostonyx sign.

Oct. 16 Akutan Bay Akutan Is. E. Aleutians

There are mouse sign up to the tops of the adjacent peaks and in the scattered rock slides but I have my doubts whether they were made by Dicrostonyx. A heavy slide that I investigated had no sign like the rock slide at Unalaska.

CLEITHRONOMYSSYNAPTOMYS ①Selmon
1931

June 9 Cascade Creek, Norton Sound, Alaska - No 1583 was trapped among dry grass & leaves in a canyon bottom. It was an accidental catch for I hadn't supposed anything there when I set the trap.

June 21 - July 12 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering Sea, Alaska. The three I caught here were taken among jumbled rocks of an anklet rookery. Some traps produced shrews also, & anklets - no Microtus. The natives know of their existence & seem to indicate that they are to be found only in such a habitat. Anyhow they are scarce for a line of 30-40 traps produced only 3 in 2 wks.

MicrotusGilmore
1931Microtus unalascensis malescens

May 31 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska

Runways thru grass & tundra are very common but population is scattered. Caught two in one runway ^{near} snowbank & one at mouth of squirrel burrow.

June 7 St. Michael, Alaska

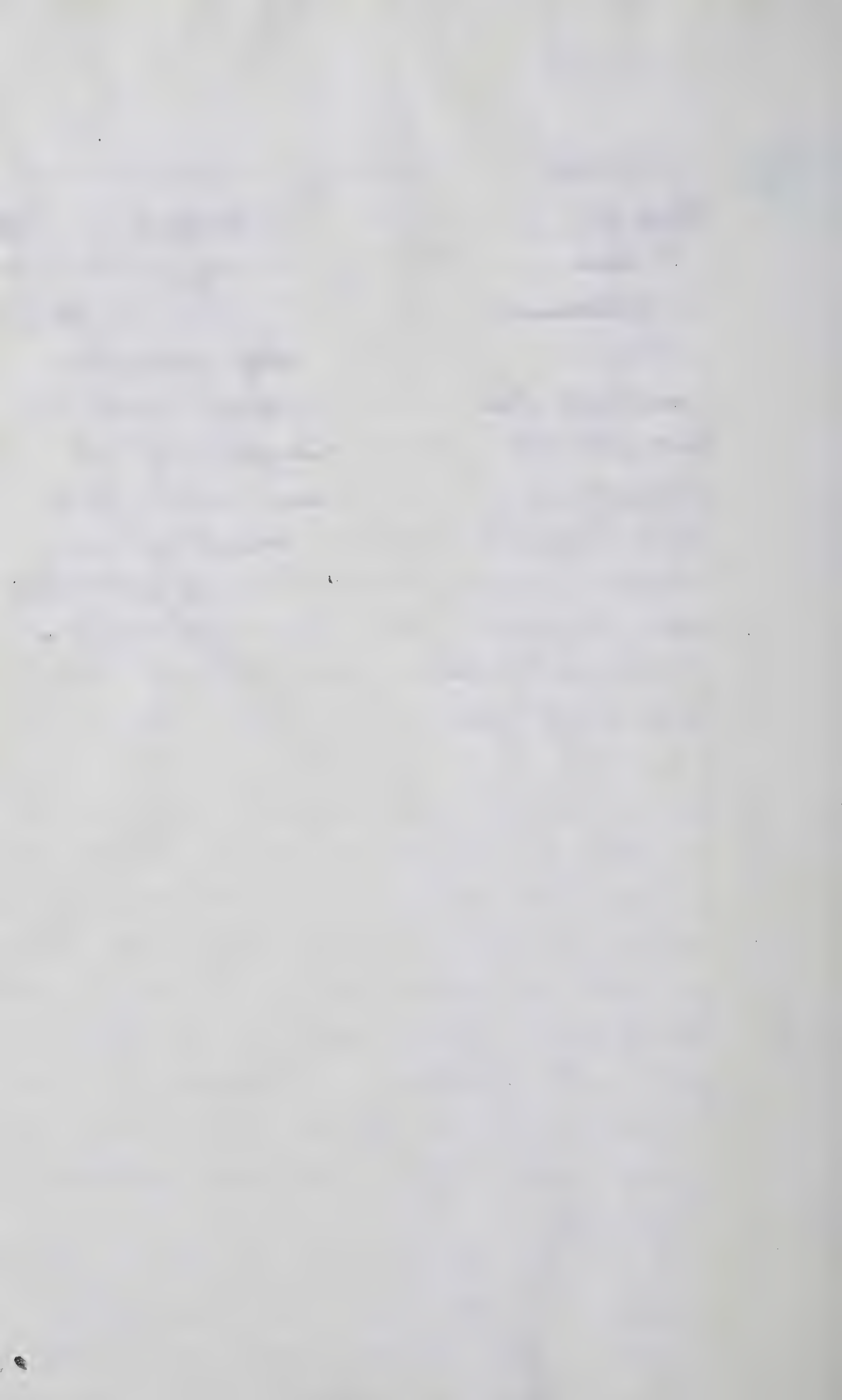
No. 1532 was caught as it ran into small pipe near abandoned River steamer 15 miles S. of St. Michael. Out on these damp tundra flats, with many ponds, were numerous runways.

Nos. 1533-37 were caught in 2½ hours in line of 24 traps set on Whale Is.

1:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. The island is about 50-75 acres in extent & 100 ± ft high at south end. 50' high at north end. Whole island is ¼ mile from St. Michael. Tundra of birch, Labrador tea & lichen, ~~was~~ and thick grass was dry; runways plentiful. Foggy day!

It has an ~~area~~ area of fatty tissue adhering to the skin of the buttocks and a pair of fatty glands at the base of the tail. Fur on buttocks is shorter than elsewhere.

Microtus o. operarius!?



MICROTUSGilman
(1931)

(2)

These fatty areas probably have an odoriferous function of some kind.

♀s have 4 pairs teats. 1 inguinal, 1 lower abdominal, upper thoracic, + 1 axillary.

June 11 Unalakleet Norton Id., Alaska

Very common - even in town - Mason & I caught two ~~two~~ in afternoon after we saw them run into burrows in the tundra. Probably bear more than one litter a year.

June 25 Sevoonga, St. Lawrence Is., Bering

Sea, Alaska

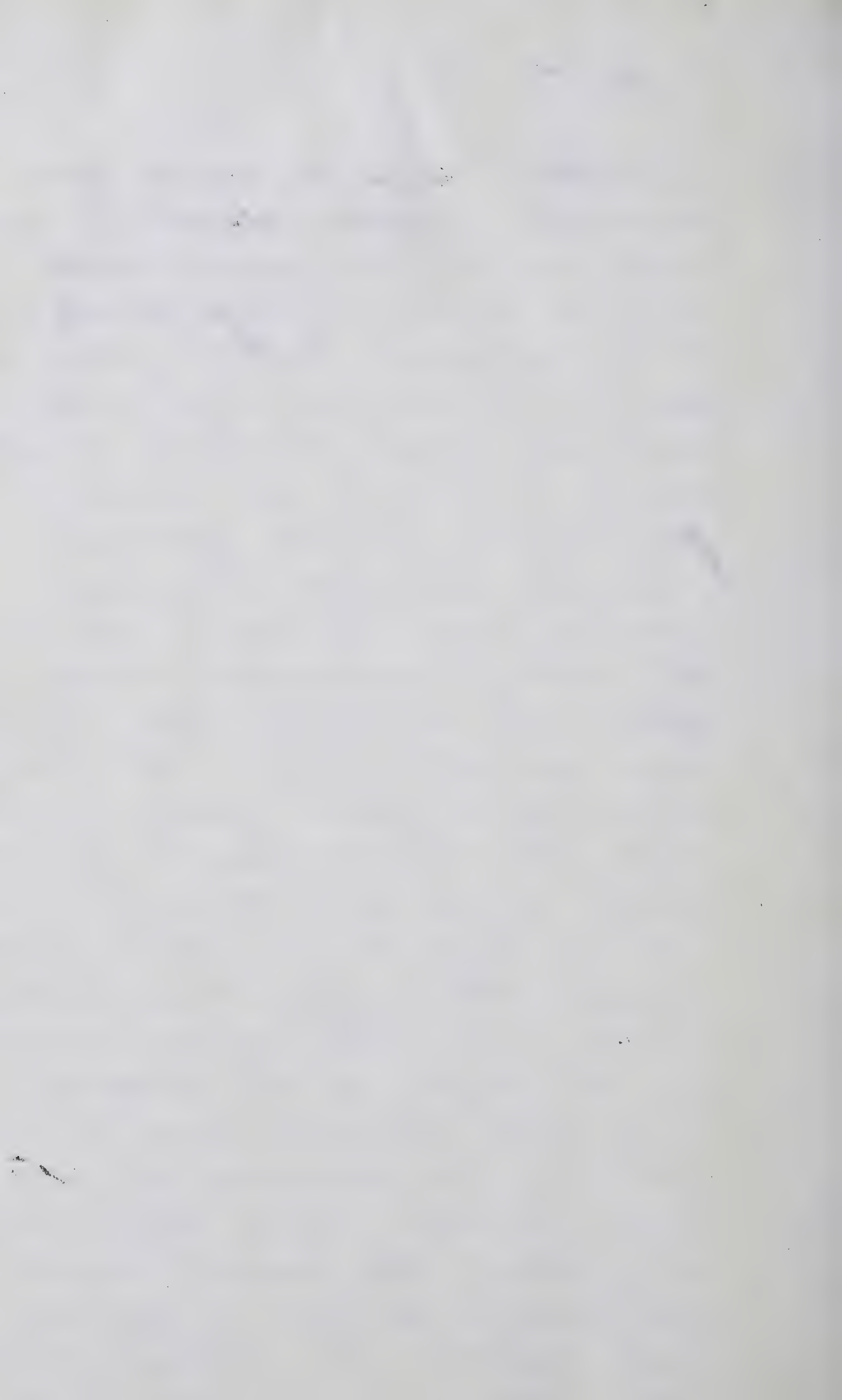
♀s have four pairs of teats - 1 inguinal, 1 lower abdominal, 1 upper thoracic, and 1 axillary. Both ♂ & ♀ have a growth of fatty tissue around the anus. The growth on the ♂s is much larger. ♂s in addition have a glandular area covering flanks & buttocks just under the skin. This glandular tissue adheres to the skin when the animal is being skinned and cannot be removed without tearing the skin. Sounds like a skin game, I guess. Runways of these mice are everywhere

Microtus minutus

Gilmore
1931

MICROTUS (3)

in evidence. Every once in a while, as one walks over the tundra a circular built-up mound of ^{dead} grass is encountered. These grass mounds may be the winter nests of the microtus, who build them under the snow. The height of the mounds is 6-8" & the diameter 5-6" while a nest-like depression is evident on the top. None are inhabited now. The mice live in all kinds of associations visited except the centers of huge rocky areas near the cliffs. Their runways course thru grass, tundra, along the sand & gravel of the beach, among the rocks at the edges of cliffs etc & thru shallow seepage water. In these latter places where the water is standing on the surface of the ground, every high tussock down to a foot or so in diameter is riddled with tunnels. These "high" areas are probably the present homes in this marshy ~~grass~~ type of ground. So numerous are these mice that a dozen or so may be



Gilmore
1931

MICROTUS ④

seen running before one's approach during the course of a day's walk anywhere.

at the present time, the (first) litters of the year have nearly nearly all appeared for all females not heavy with young show signs of recent delivery.

The mouse population furnishes the year around (?) (at least the summer) food supply for foxes, jagers and owls.

The only type of habitat where they do not seem to live is the rocky outlet rookeries where sorex & clithromys are taken. However, the day I left I took a young one in the middle of the rock pile - evidently it is merely a dispersion of young after due to over-populating the other habitats.

Piles of droppings are occasionally seen along the runways. General appearances indicate that these piles are built up during the winter. I found no fresh large piles but on

Gilmore
1931

MICROTUS (5)

the contrary the ^{fresh} droppings were found scattered everywhere.

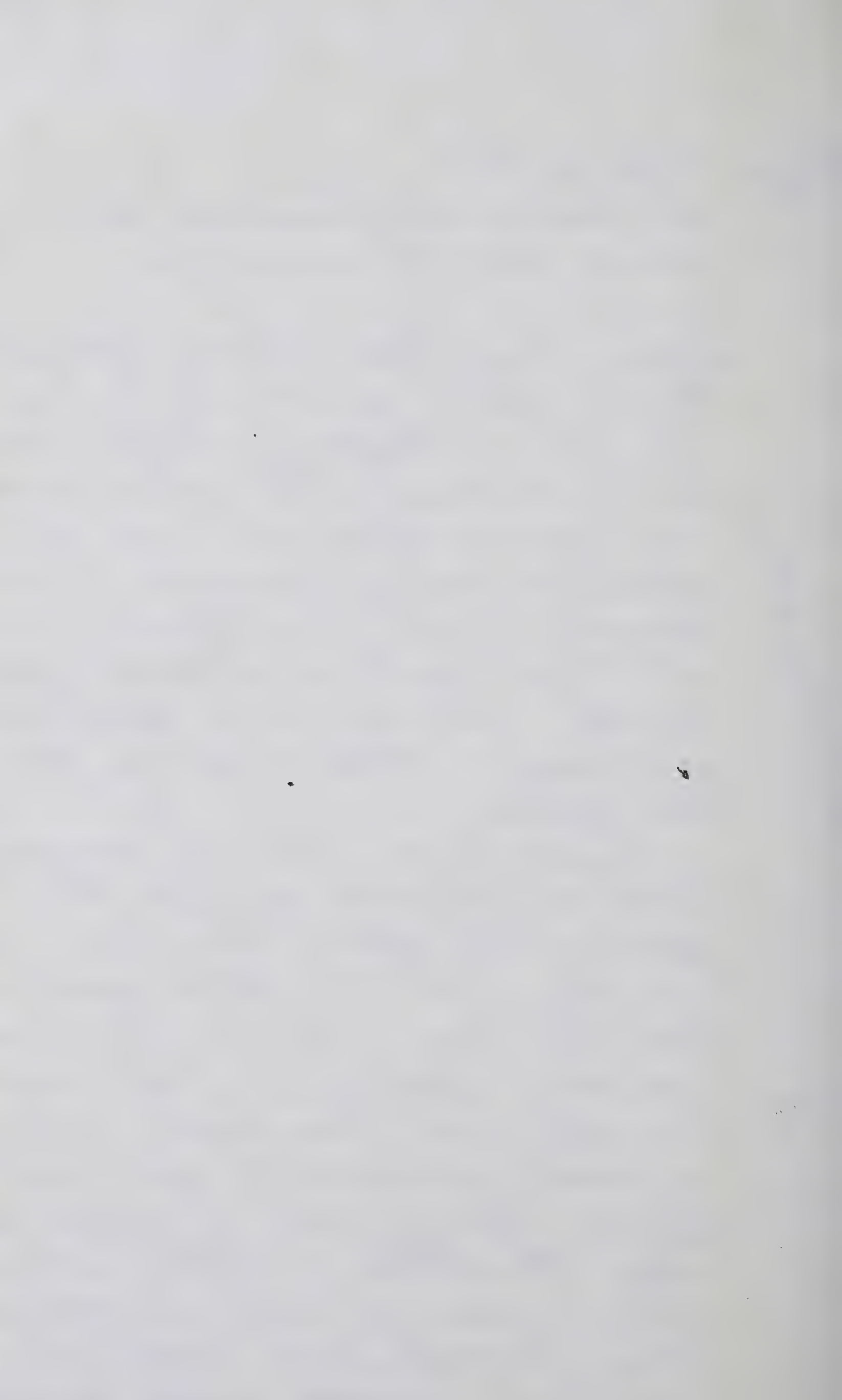
Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean.

Aug 8. After several nights (since the 3rd) of trapping I have come to the conclusion that these mice are scarce & those that are out and about, are mainly juveniles. I have caught 7 juv. & 5 adults in 15 trap nights - not such a good average. Spec. no. 1839 appeared to be nursing a litter of young, perhaps her second.

Dogs & Jaegers have the annoying habit of following my trap line & gleaming the spoils therefrom. I generally find the traps again but not the mice. Natives here call all mice "Aviingyok" (that sign over the "i" is a horse feather & it means a nasal intonation to that syllable)

Aug. 15 After a week of trapping along the ~~shores~~ ^{ponds} & tundra ridges for a couple of miles & getting about a dozen mice all told, I at last located a well populated

Microtus operarius oenlevis



Gilmore 1931 MICROTUS (6)

spot; the old village site only several hundred yards away. I had seen the numerous runways before but had thought that trapping would be very difficult due to the close proximity to the village whence issued many growling dogs & kids. However, since I lost all the skulls of the mice & squirrels I have taken & date, by leaving ^{them in} a box, ~~where~~ where native children ~~uncovered~~ removed the covering & the dogs did the rest. I had to trap in the old house mounds & pits. 30 traps in the last 12 hours have yielded 12 mice. I run the line every 5-6 hours to get the mice before the dogs do.

These old mounds & pits are overgrown with grass, & littered with whale bone & the depressions filled with water. Natives are constantly digging in them for old relics & sell to gullible whites. There are meat cellars still in use among the runies & kids & dogs are always

Gilmore
1931

MICROTUS (7)

snooping around.

Measurements on two large adults that have smashed skulls are as follows:

large ♂ 178-39-20-10

" ♀ 172-35-20-9

I trapped out several small areas rather rapidly, getting about 20 mice out of 25 traps in a couple of days. Investigating farther I discovered some small tracts of marshy grassy ground where runways are plentiful and piles of excrement show up on every elevated spot, such as on a bone or a piece of wood. Of those 20 mice about 15 were immature & evidently members of the first litters of the season. One ♀ taken had 6 embryos, & evidently a second litter.

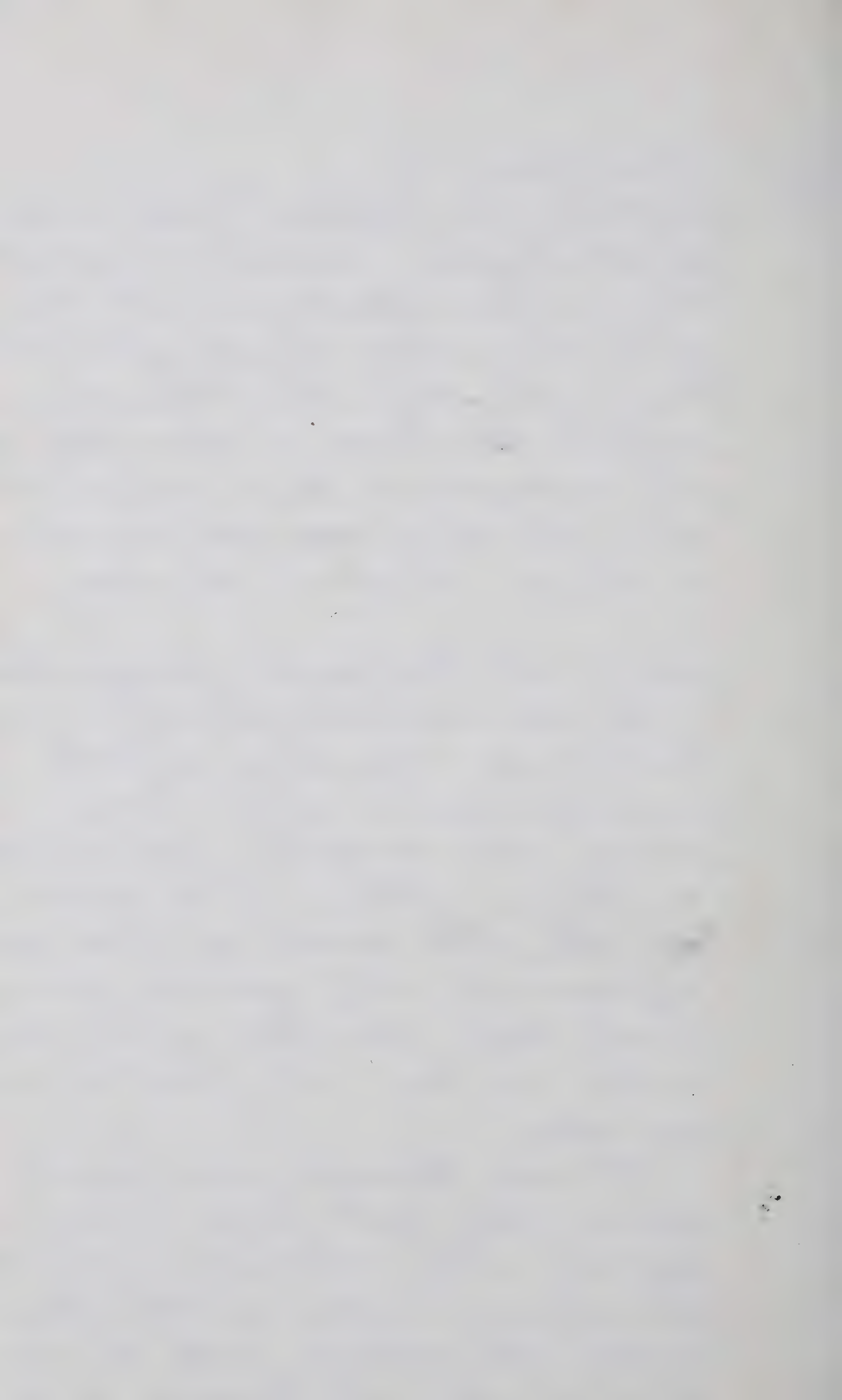
Aug 18. Trapping around the old village site has been very productive of immatures & juveniles. Almost 8-9 out of 10 fall in this class. The three large adults I caught had smashed skulls. They ^{are} equally active during the day as the night.

Gilmore MICROTUS (8)
1931

~~Sept~~ Aug 27 Elephant Point, Kotzebue Sound, Alaska. Microtus are quite common here, according to the mgr. of the Loman Bros. Reindeer Slaughter House. He states that they ~~were~~ inhabit the houses & even live in the underground meat refrigerator where the temp. ~~was~~ get very low - as low as 22° F. in Summer.

Sept. 1 St. Matthew Is. Bering Sea. Microtus inhabited the island, at least around Cape Glory of Russia in incredible numbers. Their burrows & runways were everywhere, particularly on the drier portions of the hillsides and the little mounds of fresh earth appeared like ~~some~~ squirrel burrows. Twenty traps, run twice in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours yielded 20 mice - 18 of which were immatures.

The mice themselves were much in evidence, being quite fearless of my approach. They would run to the mouth of a burrow & stand on their haunches, watching the intruder until he came too close. They often made a high



Gilmore
1931

MICROTUS (cont.) (9)

pitched squeaking noise that was a note of alarm or interest rather than fear and pain.

Observing *Microtus* in such great numbers and in such close and intimate contact was very interesting. Foxes would certainly find easy pickings on the mouse population & undoubtedly preyed upon them considerably as a side menu from nesting birds. In winter the mice form probably the only source of food for the foxes. No pregnant females noted.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska,
Aleutian Is. Moderately common around here from sea level to the tops of the ridges. They seem to live everywhere but nowhere in very great numbers.

Spec. 2082 was a young ♀ and had three embryos, all in the same uterine horn. Probably it was her first litter. All the rest of the females seem to have borne litters some weeks previously. The great majority of the victims from the trap line seem to be almost full grown immatures or full adults. There

Gilmore
1931

MICROTUS (cont.) (10)

Have been only three juveniles caught so far.

In certain small areas on certain hillsides, there seems to be a concentration of a small population. ~~in~~ The runways & burrows are thick and the first night's trapping generally results in a full catch in the traps.

Oct. 16. Akutan Bay, Akutan I., E. Aleutians

Microtus are plentiful - their runways and excrement piles are ~~to be~~ ^{to be} seen almost anywhere from beach line to the tops of the peaks. Wherever there is soil in which they may dig, they seem to be able to live. And they do a lot of digging for Microtus.

Every once in a while I will come across an 8-10 sq. ft. area of loose dirt brought to the surface by Microtus. Their tiny burrows are found in and around these dirt areas which are generally found on some hillside where a little horizontal or downward pushing will bring the fresh loose dirt out on top of the moss & grass.

Mountain Beaver

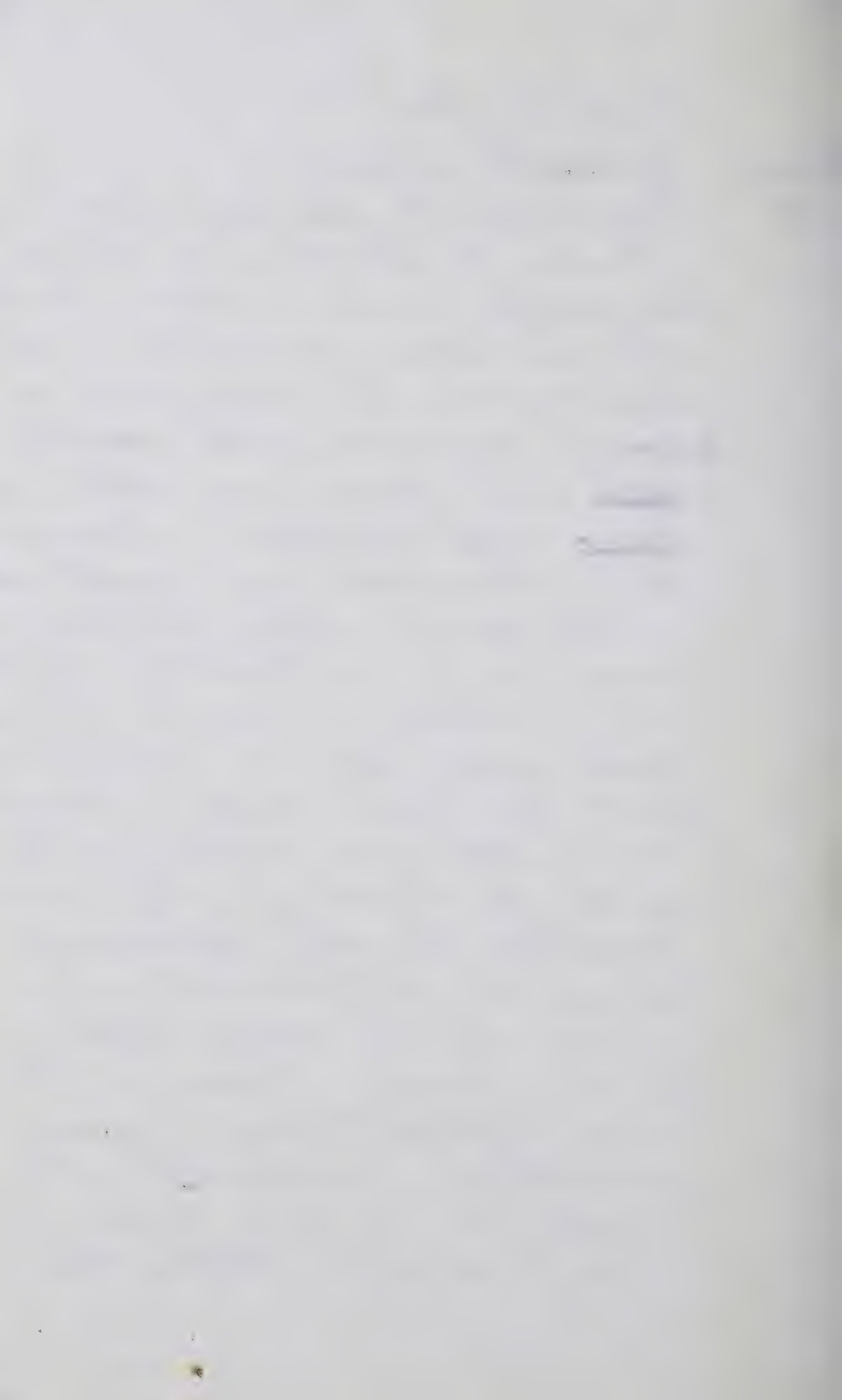
Gilmore
1931

Aplodontia rufus

May 13, 1931 Lake ridge Tract -

3 miles S. Seattle City Limits.

This locality is in a creek bottom that has been ornamented & retouched landscaped. The lower part is heavily overgrown with water cress and grass and there were many large runways & burrows thru hummocks and small raises in the ground. These burrows average 6"-8" in diameter and were evidently in use for fresh tracks were seen in nearby mud. Just how much work a single beaver does was indeterminate as ~~in~~ no length of stay was possible nor any specimens procured. The burrows were found in the drier, higher parts of the banks. Down in the cress & grass many Zapus were taken. Incidentally, the locality is 1/4 miles from the shore of the Lake Washington.



Gilmore
1931

ZAPUS

Sept 15, Unalaska Unalaska Is., Alaska.

According to Albert Olsen of False Pass, Zapus are scarce on the end of the Alaska Peninsula tho in some places one may be able to get a half a dozen or so in a short time.

GILMORE
1931 ERETHIZON

June 11 Cascade Creek, Norton Is., Alaska.

One young female taken on flat above canyon the only a few rods away from trees. Mrs. Evans, Govt. Nurse at St. Michaels, says they are common in eastern Norton Is.

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Aleutian Is., Alaska. Albert Olsen, of False Pass, offers the following information: Porcupines are common on the Alaska Peninsula in spite of lack of real timber.

In winter when food is scarce, foxes and wolverines often attack the porcupines and sometimes die from the effect of the quills.

I think he said they were not found on Unimak Is.

Gilmore 1931 RANGIFER (REINDER) ①

June 7, St. Michael, Alaska.

Here is a large slaughter house where hundreds of reindeer are butchered annually. I think the Loman Co. of Nome owns the grounds & the herd. The horns lie in huge piles outside the slaughter house.

July 12 Savvonga, St. Lawrence Is.

Bering Sea. Only ~~twice~~ three times have I seen reindeer since I came here on June 21. Twice I saw isolated animals, evidently separated from the herd. They were half-wild in their actions.

On the other occasion I watched a large herd (some 900) file thru a large snow bank to higher ground. All used the beaten trail.

July 19. Teller, Port Clarence, Seward Peninsula, Alaska

This afternoon I witnessed, ^{the} herding, corraling and handling of a herd of several thousand reindeer by



Gilmore
1931

RANGIFER (REINDEER) (2)
agents and employees of the Loman
Commercial Co.

The whole performance was marked by unnecessary roughness, cruelty and indifference. It may have been due partially to ignorance and partially by the eskimo workers who seemed to be entirely inconsiderate of the animals and even took a peculiar sort of glee in the panic & suffering of the animals.

The animals were crowded into the various corals where they milled around and back and forth in frenzied confusion. In the maelstrom of kicking plunging feet, many horns were broken off and quite a few young animals trampled under. The latter were dragged to one side by eager native boys who enthusiastically proceeded to dispatch the victims by the slow & uncertain method of thrusting a heavy short knife blade into the spinal cord at the base of the brain. Needless to say,

Gilmore RANGIFER (REINDEER) (3)
 1931

by the time the atlas was pried loose from the ~~from~~ occipital condyles, the deer was generally well nigh dead and the youths covered with blood.

When the frightened deer were driven thru the chutes, a comet was taken and all yearlings thrown violently to the ground by several natives, who grasping the horns, threw their body horse back fashion over the hanches of the deer and bore it to the ground by their sheer weight. Often the legs ~~were~~ of the animal were stretched straight out behind, there being no time to double them under in a natural unstrained position during the quick downward & forward fall. Males were castrated by pinching off the vas deferentia with a hand squeezing tool, and both sexes were ear marked in very very generous fashion. Some of the severed portions of the ear cartilage could have covered the palm of my hand.

Thru out my whole visit the natives showed great pleasure in their work.

Gilmore RANGIFER (REINDEER) (4)
1931

Aug. 1, Point Hope, Alaska (Arctic Ocean)

The reindeer camp is situated about 10 miles east of Igara, and is located near a narrow neck of land separating two long lagoons that run parallel to the beach and a hundred back from it. Here the deer are easily corralled with the aid of the three bodies of water.

Herding is hard; the deer do not drive in a marching formation like cattle, but mill around in a wide ~~wide~~ circle, moving along the desired direction all the time.

Thus it generally takes a dozen herders to handle 500 deer, tho when bedded down, several men and dogs can do the work. Many of the "husky" dogs are trained to help.

In working their own herd, ^{as much} ~~the~~ ^{of the} native village as can be present, help out. The yearlings, ^{thru} ~~in~~ the chutes, are handled as roughly as usual but killing and castrating are done different. Killing is done

Silmore 1931 RANGIFER (REINDEER) (5)
 by rolling the animal on its side, stabbing it suddenly with a ~~stilet~~ stiletto-like knife, and then bending a fore leg up ~~so that it is~~ to a position between the horns, a position from which the animal cannot extricate it. Such a procedure hinders the breathing & the animal soon dies, meanwhile affording amusement to several small youngsters astride its prostrate form.

Castrating is accomplished by jabbing a long ~~at~~ narrow knife blade into the testicle and squeezing the contents out thru the puncture by a ~~slight~~ sliding ~~of~~ ~~rotary~~ grasping motion of the thumb and fore finger.

I found one two year old male dead on the tundra about a half mile from the corral, ~~he~~ and although it showed bloody evidence of having been recently castrated, I could not be certain as to the means of its death.

This year the herd had increased 25% over last year; 5000 : 4000.

Gilmore
1931

RANGIFER GRANTI

Sept. 15. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska,
Alutian Is. From Albert Olsen I gathered the following information:

Grant's Caribou are very common on ~~Unalaska~~ Unimak Is., + the end of the Alaska Peninsula. They were so plentiful that several years ago several thousand perished during a severe winter. That number applies both to the island and the mainland.

Silmore
1931

MOUNTAIN SHEEP ①

Tigara, Point Hope, Alaska

Aug. 22 From Bob Tuckfield of
Jabbertown I learned today that
mountain sheep are regularly found
in the hills east & north of here.
Resident herders kill a few & 4
were killed last year, and they
often come within ~~sight~~ binocular
sight of Tuckfield's summer cabin
on Maryatt Inlet.

Gilmore 1931 ORCINUS RECTIPINNA - PACIFIC KILLER ①

May 19 Off Fairweather Mt., Gulf of Alaska
While watching the ~~herds~~ numerous
fur seal in the water today, the tack
turned to Killer whales & whether they
do much damage to the herds of seal.
Lieut. Commander Bradbury stated that
some years back, the cutter, ^{that} he was
stationed on, was ordered by the govt.
to investigate the problem and kill
all the killer whales they were able.

Tho they saw many "killers", they
neither killed any or solved the problem.
He stated that the cutter would draw
up to a herd of whales & a clip or
two of 50 rounds apiece would be
emptied into the animals from a
machine gun without any noticeable
effect. Probably the whales died, ~~the~~
at least from lead poisoning if not
from the wounds themselves.

Aug 1 10 miles S.E. of Pt. Hope, Alaska.
Today, a school of "killers" drove a
large school of belugas right up
next to the beach. I didn't see the
killers, but the natives claimed they
were out there ~~but~~ ^{and} never came in close.

Gilmore ORCINUS RECTIPINNA (2)
1931 to shore.

Sept. 15. Unalaska, Unalaska Is., Alaska.
Alutian Is. Killer whales seem to
be common around these islands
and have even been seen alongside
the wharf here. No one seems to have
very much respect for them and Mr.
Nicklasson, an old whaler, states
that he has never seen them attack
whales. A 15' specimen was caught
in a salmon net the other day in
the harbor, but only the tail was
saved + that was tacked up on the
front of a barn in Dutch Harbor.

Oct. 7 Unutan Pass, E. Alutian Is.

While crossing the pass this a.m.
we saw one bunch of 5-6 "Killers".
The black sinister appearing fins
were cutting the water close to-
gether ^{and} directly for the boat when
of a sudden they disappeared, and
we did not see them any more.
Evidently they had heard the
noise of the propeller & motor.

Gilmore
1931

PORPOISE

May 8. Entrance to Juan de Fuca St. Pacific Coast. - Two played around the bow of the boat with apparent ease - dark above + white on belly.

May 16 Finlayson Channel - B.C. - Several played around the ship for about 15 minutes.

May 18 Chatham Sound S.E. Alaska. - 4-5 played around the ship about 5: P.M.

May 18 - Chatham St. S. End End Baranof Is. a couple played around bow about 5 P.M. water choppy - near ocean



May 19 6-7 seen in Jay Strait.

Nov. 2 Two seen in Shelikof Straits.

Gilmore
1931

WHITE WHALE "Beluga" ①

Point Hope, Alaska, Arctic Ocean.

Aug. 2. While I have been at the ^{camp} reindeer & thereabouts for the past 4-5 days I have seen many white whales, 50 or so all told. They swim close along the shore in a westward direction, and generally in schools of a dozen. When killer whales are present farther out, the belugas swim within a few feet of the beach, and are easily killed from the beach with rifles. In fact the natives hunt them this way.

When a school swims along, the Eskimo on lookout, who is always seated on the tundra bank next to the beach, sounds a warning & runs to the water's edge followed by every other man who has the opportunity to grab up his rifle & join in the hunt. The natives string along the beach for miles, ^{slightly} ahead of & parallel to the ~~se~~ swimming whales & everytime one rises close to the shore they let a volley go at its head.

A pool of blood on the surface

Gilmore
1931

WHITE WHALE (2)

indicates a mortal wound, ^{where upon} ~~and~~ a small weighted grappling hook on the end of a heavy cord is thrown out over the spot where the whale was shot & dragged back over the spot in question. This procedure is repeated until the whale is "hooked" & ~~then~~ it is gently eased up to the water's edge with the help of the waves. There it is fastened by a fore flipper to the cord & dragged along the water to the camp. The process is much the same as towing a canoe.

At the beach in front of camp a rope is fastened to a flipper & passed around the body half a dozen times so that when the rope is pulled the body rolls up over the sand out of the water. Before cutting starts, all gather about the body in solemn attention, while one of the natives (the killer) kneels on one knee at the head of the whale & recites a ~~silent~~ whispered prayer.

Silmore
1931

WHITE WHALE (3)

In cutting up the whale, a large elliptical section of blubber, covering the area between the lower neck, each flipper & the anus, is first ~~plu~~ pulled off & then the rest of the skin & fat from the head to the "small" is stripped off in one piece. The meat is cut off in strips & dried, while the tendons in the "small" are pulled out for sinews.

Belugas ("shéeshuk") are very common along the shore in the spring according to the natives. They seemed to be working in a westerly direction, whether in annual migration, or just this time by accident I don't know.

Whale skin with the blubber on & cut in strips is highly prized for food. In this form it is known as "muktuk".

Sept. 15 Unalaska, Unalaska Is. Alaska,
Alutian Is. According to Albert Olsen white whales are known to occur in Bristol Bay in appreciable numbers.

